



Legal Advisor

Introduction to SOLA

SOLA is a vertically-integrated provider of solar technology, finance and engineering expertise in Africa. SOLA grows businesses, connects communities and helps people prosper by advancing the adoption of clean energy throughout the African continent. Our team is committed to powering Africa with clean, affordable energy.

The overall purpose of the position:

The purpose of the Legal Advisor role is to provide legal advice and services to the company and its employees with a particular emphasis on leading negotiations of contracts, drafting legal documents and managing the input of external legal advisors and other counterparties. The role will encompass the legal aspects of project development, finance and implementation but will also include responsibility for the group's corporate legal matters.

Dual reporting line: CEO & Head of Project Development
Location: Cape Town

Summary of Responsibilities:

- Legal lead in negotiations of major contracts including
 - Project Agreements (PPA, IA, EPC, O&M, MSA)
 - Finance Agreements (CTA, FA, Security Documents)
 - Corporate Agreements (MOI, SHA)
 - Property Agreements (Land Use etc.)
 - Joint ventures and joint development agreements
- Identification, appointment and management of external legal advisors required for the above (where additional support is required by the sponsor)
- Coordination and communication with Lender's counsel and other advisors
- Procurement of external legal opinions where required, such as in support of the REIPPPP bidding and commercial close process
- Drafting of legal responses to tenders (including REIPPPP and private offtake bids) and coordination of all necessary supporting documents
- Draft and negotiate agreements for project acquisitions and joint development ventures, and undertake legal due diligence of identified projects and partners
- Draft and negotiate land use agreements and advise on the land securement process and timelines
- Provide support on the legislative aspects of land use and permitting for renewable energy projects
- Review and provide guidance on other legislative matters that are relevant to renewable energy including the Eskom grid connection process, NERSA licensing and energy system planning processes.
- Provide general legal support in the business such as reviewing NDAs, corporate leases and providing support on a range of corporate transactions.

Administrative/Operational

- Ensuring contractual obligations in operating contracts are met
- Advising on contract disputes including drafting of responses / legal letters
- Reviewing and improving legal processes within the business to maximise efficiency and manage regulatory risks

Key Performance Indicators

- Spend on external legal advisers measured against scope and budget
- Number of contact negotiations closed out on time and within budget

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- Extent of streamlining and improvement in internal legal processes and documentation
- Peer feedback on level of support provided to the business units

Minimum Requirements:

- At minimum, LLB plus at least 5 years' post-articles experience in a corporate environment.
- Must have at least 2 years' experience in project finance / infrastructure development in South Africa with exposure to the following agreements:
 - Project Agreements (PPA, IA, EPC, O&M, MSA)
 - Finance Agreements (CTA, FA, Security Documents)
 - Corporate Agreements (MOI, SHA)
 - Property Agreements (Land Use etc.)
 - Joint ventures and joint development agreements
- Direct experience in renewable energy will be advantageous.
- South African citizen or legally able to live and work permanently within South Africa.
- Must be fully proficient in English (verbal and written communication)
- Must be fully computer literate (MS Office Suite and Google App Suite)
- Problem solving ability and a 'can-do' attitude.
- Proactive nature towards supporting the business activities across the interdisciplinary teams.
- Strong interpersonal skills and broad network of renewable energy contacts.
- Attention to detail and commercial awareness.
- The ideal candidate will be passionate about the renewable energy industry and the company's contribution to the future of energy.
- He/she will embody respect and responsibility in the full sense of the word, and will enjoy contributing to a team of highly knowledgeable professionals.

If you are interested in applying for this vacancy, please complete the screening questionnaire [here](#) and submit your CV to hireme@solagroup.co.za.

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