



Project Developer (Construction and Operations Phase)

Introduction to SOLA

SOLA is a 100% South African, vertically integrated renewable energy solutions provider, specialising in the development, construction and operation of solar PV and battery energy storage projects. We focus on partnering with the private sector to deliver clean energy to businesses across South Africa using cutting edge clean energy generation and storage technologies. We help our clients to grow and prosper through the adoption of low cost and reliable renewable energy, enabling them to meet their carbon reduction and sustainability targets.

The overall purpose of the position:

The primary goal of this role is to be the point of contact for all permits, licenses and consents, and environmental compliance matters for projects that are in construction and/or operation. The Project Developer plays the role of the environmental officer for the project, supporting the Asset Management and Project Development teams. Additionally, the role may contribute to building SOLA's project pipeline by guiding projects through the development cycle, with a particular focus on late-stage development, financial close (FC) and the project implementation phase.

Reports to: Senior Project Developer

Location: Cape Town

Summary of Responsibilities:

Technical

- Post FC project development including permit application and maintenance, compliance, land relations management, management of the ECO and EO.
- Post FC monitoring and reporting to Administrator, Lenders, Shareholders and other key stakeholders.
- Engagement with the Contractor and Operator teams with regard to permits, environmental audits, water use requirements, compliance matters.
- Review and commentary on Contractor and Operator reports.
- Management of external service providers such as legal and environmental specialists.
- Active involvement in project development to advance projects through the various development stages eg.environmental and technical sensitivity screening of project sites, permitting and land workstreams, etc.
- Active participation in industry forums and research to maintain detailed market intelligence.
- Rapid expansion of skills and experience is to be gained across all stages of the project lifecycle.

Administrative/Operational

- Data management and contribution to ESG reports for projects and SOLA in general.
- Contribute to improving SOLA internal processes and development approaches, based on prior knowledge and experience.
- Report on project progress, risks and challenges on a monthly basis.
- Extensive site travels throughout South Africa.

Interpersonal

- Engage with the various SOLA Teams, from Engineering, Project Finance, Contractor, Operator, Asset Management to Procurement.
- Ongoing stakeholder engagement including government departments, local municipality, community and non-profit I&APs.
- Engagement with other project developers, land owners, project partners, clients etc.
- External stakeholder management; specifically for consultants and advisors.

Key Performance Indicators

- Quarterly compliance with permits for all projects within construction and operation phase
- Key metrics for financial close process met on time (e.g. outstanding permits delivered on time)
- Management of external contractors, with deliverables on time and within budget

Minimum Requirements:

Qualifications and Experience:

- BSc degree in a relevant discipline (Environmental, Construction Management or Renewable Energy).
- Three to five years experience in large scale electricity project development and management (for a developer/IPP or consultant/advisor working in the renewable energy sector).
- Experience of environmental monitoring and compliance on site during construction and/or operations or previous experience with post FC project development and permitting.
- Experience of South African regulations pertaining to environment and permitting, electricity generation and project development.
- Previous experience in identifying, securing and developing greenfield projects and/or project acquisitions.

Technical Competencies:

- Experience working with all relevant computer programs (MS Office Suite, MS Project, G-Suite, etc).
- Ability to create and monitor detailed project schedules and budgets
- Ability to collate and analyze data
- Attention to detail.
- Comfortable in reviewing legal documents such as leases, licenses and other contracts.
- Understanding in GIS and Mapping software.

Behavioral Competencies:

- Flexibility to work within tight deadlines while managing a large and complex scope of work.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a small and dynamic team.
- Growth mindset and strong desire to advance professional competencies.
- Problem solving and positive approach to dealing with challenges.
- Excellent communicator, both verbal and written communication, with English being the main language (additional South African languages advantageous).
- Willingness and availability to travel.
- Appreciation of a "work hard, play hard" philosophy and SOLA's other corporate values.
- 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.

At SOLA one of our core values is *Dig Diversity* and we are committed to transformation and embracing diversity. This commitment is what drives us to achieve a diverse and inclusive workplace, representative of the demographics of our society. We therefore give preference to applicants from the designated groups in alignment with our Employment Equity plan.

To apply for this vacancy, please complete this [screening questionnaire](#) and send a copy of your CV to hireme@solagroup.co.za.