

Danny O'Brien



Property and Construction Special Counsel

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Areas of expertise

- Statutory approvals
- Due Diligence
- Commercial Arrangements (including construction, land access and resumption)
- Development Appeals
- Environment appeals, advice and injunctions
- Infrastructure advice and representation
- Prosecutions

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Laws, Queensland University of Technology
- Bachelor of Business (International Business), Queensland University of Technology

Memberships

- Member, Queensland Environmental Law Association
- Member, Queensland Law Society

Danny has extensive experience in government, regulatory and environment law across a number of industry sectors, including major projects (mining, power and infrastructure), property development and local government.

Danny regularly advises clients on a variety of planning and environment issues including regulatory approvals, land resumption, contracting issues and compliance.

Danny is listed in Best Lawyers Australia 2016-2018 for Land Use and Zoning Law, Government Practice and Planning and Environment Law.

"I am always thinking about the bigger picture behind a matter – it allows me to focus on what is important and get the job done."

Significant matters

State of Queensland - Advised on the town planning regulatory options to facilitate the development of the Queen's Wharf Project, Brisbane.

Resource and project development – Acted on behalf of mining company in judicial review proceedings in the Northern Territory Supreme Court and the Federal Court against the approval of a mine expansion from underground to open cut.

Resource and project development – Acted on behalf of a gas company in the negotiation of land access arrangements and in the negotiation of contracts associated with the construction of its pipeline network.

Resource and project development – Advised mining company on approvals required under the Mineral Resources Act, the Environmental Protection Act, the Integrated Planning Act and the Vegetation Management Act to undertake the development of a green field coal mine including the pipeline infrastructure to support the mining activities.

Solar farm projects – Acted for various companies in relation to the development of solar farm projects in Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory. Provided advice on regulatory compliance issues (environmental and town planning) associated with the construction of solar farms, as well as statutory approvals, environmental, native title and cultural heritage issues. Undertook due diligence on all environmental and town planning aspects of the projects.

Wind farms projects – Acted for various Queensland wind farms advising on regulatory compliance issues (environmental) associated with the construction.