



Marguerite Davis

Director

Young Earth Attorneys Inc



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Areas of Practice

Environmental law, including environmental impact assessments, conservation and biodiversity, international environmental law, integrated pollution and waste control, administrative law, public participation

Water Law, including the South African regulatory framework, international and regional water law, public participation and water tribunal appeals

Property law and conveyancing including residential and commercial property transactions,

Property developments including township establishment, subdivisions, consolidations, opening of sectional title schemes (including mixed use schemes)

Land rights including leases and servitudes securing renewable energy projects

Qualifications

LLM (Environmental Law) (cum laude), University of the Witwatersrand, 2009; Advanced Environmental Law University of the Witwatersrand, 2003; Water Law, University of the Witwatersrand, 2003

Admitted Conveyancer, 1987; Admitted Attorney, 1985;

LLB, University of Cape Town, 1982; BA, University of Cape Town, 1980

Career

Marguerite Davis, joined Young Earth Attorneys Inc, as a director in May 2016 where she specialises in real estate, conveyancing, environmental and water law. She is an admitted attorney and conveyancer. Her areas of practice include all aspects of residential, commercial and agricultural property law and transactions including conveyancing, structuring and financing of property transactions; land use, development and zoning, leases, notarial deeds and bonds.

Her experience in the land related aspects of renewable energy projects, both solar and wind farming, includes reviewing land related documentation and authorisations required to secure the land and related property rights for renewable energy projects and preparation of due diligence reports; preparation and review of options, leases and servitudes and related advice.

Her area of practice also includes expertise in environmental law, providing opinions and advice generally relating to all aspects of environmental legislation, risk compliance and management and compliance including water, air quality and waste, EIAs and authorisations, conservation and biodiversity as well as some environmental related litigation.

Before joining Young Earth Attorneys, she was a partner at Webber Wentzel in the Real Estate Practice within the Commercial Business Unit at Webber Wentzel from April 2014 to March 2016.

Before joining Webber Wentzel, she practised for her own account under the name Marguerite Davis Attorneys and Conveyancers from 1989, with the exception of a few years. She has also been employed as legal counsel at Sappi Limited, as director at Routledge Modise Attorneys and Theart Mey Ramabulana Inc, and head of the real estate department at Lazzara Leicher.

She is a sessional lecturer, supervisor and external examiner at University of the Witwatersrand in the post graduate Environmental Law program and teaches Water Law and has taught Land and Water Law and Integrated Pollution and Waste Law.

Transactional History –

Member of the team that advised / acted for:-

- Educas, an international investment firm in the education sector, in acquisition/establishment of premium private schools in -2015
- Anglo American plc – sale of Rustenburg Operations by Rustenburg Platinum Mine Ltd to Sibanye Rustenburg Platinum Mines Pty Ltd – 2014-2015
- Life Healthcare Group Pty Ltd in relation to its Midmed, Mossel Bay and Flora Clinic properties
- Redefine Properties in relation to various commercial property acquisitions and disposals
- Astrapak – in relation to property transactions
- the lender consortium in relation to the Abengoa - Xina CSP Project and Kaxu CSP Projects 2015-2106
- Sun Edison, as sponsor's counsel in relation to its consideration of the acquisition of 7 wind IPP projects - 2015
- Solar Capital de Aar 3 (RF) (Pty) Ltd as lender's counsel for Deutsche Bank in relation to the SPV project, 2014-2016
- Rainmaker Energy Project (Pty) Ltd as counsel in relation to a land split on existing wind projects and the submission of their projects in the expedited bid window, REIPPP, 2015
- FRV, as sponsor's counsel in relation to the submission of its Watershed Solar 1 and Grootkop PV SPV IPP projects in Round 4, 2014 and assistance with clarification notes in the expedited round, 2015
- BlueWave Capital SA (Pty) Ltd, as sponsor's counsel in relation to its submission of its Wolmaransstad, 75 MW solar photovoltaic project in the expedited window, REIPPP, 2015.
- NRG, as counsel in respect of roof top leases for solar energy facilities, 2015
- PRASA., counsel advising on environmental and land regulatory aspects of its project with Gibela for the manufacturing of locomotives, 2015
- EOH Legal Services in relation to a legal opinion regarding the authorisation required by Eskom for constructing power lines over state land at the Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm, 2015

- Enel Green Power South Africa (Pty) Ltd as sponsor's counsel in relation to its acquisition of a number of SPV and wind IPP projects and submission of the projects in Round 4 of the Renewable Energy IPP Procurement Programme, 2014; and the Tom Burke PV plant and Pulida PV projects, which were awarded preferred bidder status in Round 3, in preparation for financial close, 2014.
- Actis LLP as sponsor's counsel on its bid response in respect of submission of a number of projects in Round 4 of the Renewable Energy IPP Procurement Programme, 2014.
- FSLR Development (South Africa) Pty Ltd (First Solar) as sponsor's counsel on the Aggeneys Solar projects on their bid response in respect of submission of their projects in Round 4 Renewable Energy IPP Procurement Programme, 2014.
- SkyPower Services ULC as counsel on 9 solar projects in their bid response in respect of submission of their projects in Round 4, 2014
- Nedbank Limited, acting through its Nedbank Capital division in relation to the 75 MW Prieska PV Project being developed by Sonnedix and Mulilo, 2014.
- Longyuan Mulilo De Aar Wind Power (Pty) Ltd (RF) as sponsor's counsel in relation to two wind farms which were awarded preferred bidder status 2014.
- Scatec Solar AS to their SPV projects which were awarded preferred bidder status in previous rounds, in relation to regulatory compliance of their SPV projects.
- Centre for Environmental Rights in drafting submissions to the Parliamentary Subcommittee on the National Water Strategy 2, 2012
- Environmental Consultants and Environmental Impact Practitioners advising *inter alia*, on the environmental regulatory framework for environmental impact assessments, public participation, water law and water tribunal appeals.
- Clients in connection with the lodging of appeals in respect of environmental authorisations as well as townplanning authorisations.

Articles and Publications

- "Law and Resilience: Mapping the Literature" assisted Professor Tracy-Lynn Humby in initial research into the legal review of the concept of resilience in international literature and how it influences environmental governance. The article has been accepted for publication in Seattle Journal of Environmental Law. 2013
- Water Supply and Sanitation in South Africa Environmental Rights and Municipal Accountability LHR Publication Series 1/2009, Emma Algotsson and Tumai Murombo, assisted in research of this legal review
- Lecture

Sessional Lecturer in the postgraduate Water Law course, in the LLM and Postgraduate Diploma, programs, University of the Witwatersrand.

In collaboration with Professor Humby, designed the new postgraduate Water Law course, for School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand, 2016.

Sessional Lecturer Land and Water Law, LLM and Postgraduate Diploma courses, University of the Witwatersrand, 2010, 2012, 2014, including the design of the courses.

Examiner and supervisor in Environmental Law at University of Witwatersrand, 2014 – to date, with particular focus on water law.

Sessional Lecturer Integrated Pollution and Waste Law, LLM and Postgraduate Diploma courses, University of the Witwatersrand, 2010

- Seminar/ Presentation

"An overview of Water Services Legislation" Lawyers for Human Rights Workshop: Water Supply and Sanitation in South Africa: Environmental Rights and Municipal Accountability

"Relationship of Environmental Authorisation to Planning Law", "Regulatory Framework for Protection of Water Resources", "Case Studies relating to EIA's", "Process Implications of Obtaining a Water Use Licence" Improvion Workshop hosted by Universtiy of the Witwatersrand

Just Environmental Action and the Lammermoor Residents Association workshop on environmental impact assessments and water law

Sappi "Environmental Law Workshop", presentations on environmental legislation affecting the industry.

- Contributions to the profession

Member of the Law Society of the Northern Provinces

Member of the Johannesburg Attorneys Association and served on the Property Law Sub Committee

Member of the Environmental Law Association

Served on the Endangered Wildlife Trust Law and Policy Working Group

Member of Golden Key International Honour Society

Pro bono legal work with particular emphasis on land, environmental and water rights.