



Energy and resources

Having acted for many key stakeholders in the oil and gas, mining and utilities sectors, Cooper Grace Ward understands the specific issues and challenges faced by the energy and resources industry.

Through our experience working both as advisers and in-house lawyers with energy and resources companies, our team has in-depth knowledge of the key business drivers and inputs required from the initial stages of oil, gas and mining exploration through to project approval, development and operation. We also understand the important aspects of marketing, sales and export.

Cooper Grace Ward provides legal advice and solutions to mining, oil and gas companies, asset owners and operators, investors, service providers, contractors, financiers, government, and wholesalers and retailers of petroleum and renewable fuels. We also work with a range of clients in the electricity and renewables sectors.

Our lawyers' expertise in this area includes advising on day-to-day legal requirements for energy and resources participants, including corporate governance and compliance, risk management, litigation and regulatory issues, supply agreements, intellectual property, taxation, property leases, workplace relations, safety

and other operational matters. We also have depth of experience advising on corporate transactions in the sector, including M&A, joint ventures and financings.

As a Brisbane based commercial law firm, we are dedicated to supporting resources clients and their operations across Queensland and throughout Australia. Cooper Grace Ward has very strong regional networks and a proven track record of partnering with businesses in regional Queensland to provide practical and commercial legal solutions, advice and training.

Our energy and resources expertise

As a full service commercial law firm, we assemble multi-disciplinary teams across a broad range of legal service areas to provide effective solutions to the many complex challenges faced by organisations operating in the energy and resources sector.

Our services and experience include:

- mergers, acquisitions and divestments
- business and project structuring, including joint venture arrangements
- farm-in / farm-out agreements
- operational contracts across the upstream, midstream and downstream
- developing and documenting procurement programs and risk management strategies
- advice on tender process and strategies
- documenting, negotiating and advising on all forms of contracts for construction, engineering, product and equipment supply, services and contract mining
- advice on infrastructure development and funding
- competition
- foreign investment
- native title, land acquisition and access
- response and defence to investigations and prosecutions in alleged breaches of statutory duties
- environmental approvals and incidents
- conducting and advising on environmental audits, due diligence, impact assessments and compliance issues of proposed development
- tenements, planning and regulatory due diligence
- advice on workplace health and safety
- conducting comprehensive workplace investigations
- advice on compliance with modern awards, specific mining legislation and the *Fair Work Act*
- employment policies, contracts, disciplinary matters and disputes with unions and employees
- intellectual property and IT advice
- advice on new regulatory and commercial law developments and developing compliance and risk management responses (e.g. PPSA)
- advice on banking and finance transactions and documentation
- business succession planning and personal asset structuring advice, including superannuation
- advising on methods of dealing with relevant government authorities in relation to regulations governing the energy and resources sector.

We also advise clients on:

- the legal nature and protection of oil and gas exploration and production rights
- the Australian regulatory and licensing regime
- control of operations, operating and other agreements
- infrastructure issues and regulation of downstream operations, including gas codes.

Key team contacts

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About Cooper Grace Ward

With more than 200 team members, Cooper Grace Ward is a leading Australian law firm based in Brisbane, servicing clients with a local, national and international presence. As a full service firm, we are known for providing commercial and practical advice, outstanding service and excellence in all practice areas.

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