

## Rachel Jones

### Partner

#### Sydney

T +61 2 8248 7862

M +61 477 900 033

[rachel.j.jones@squirepb.com](mailto:rachel.j.jones@squirepb.com)



### About Rachel

Rachel Jones is a leading debt finance specialist with 20 years of top-tier experience in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. She is a versatile and well-rounded practitioner with a depth of experience and capability in all elements of complex finance transactions. She has a strong profile in the Australian finance market and is recognised by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* for Banking and Finance.

Rachel's experience spans leveraged, acquisition and project finance, structured asset finance and general corporate finance. She is a trusted adviser to banks, arrangers, corporates, operating lessors and export credit agencies in a wide range of jurisdictions. She has a depth of experience with bilateral and syndicated loan transactions across a range of structures, including tax-driven structured finance arrangements, debt restructuring, and asset-backed and inventory facilities.

Clients look to Rachel for her commercial, solution-focused approach and regard her as one of the top finance lawyers in Sydney.

### Experience

#### Acquisition and Leveraged Finance

- Advising Telstra in connection with financing the US\$1.6 billion acquisition of Digicel Pacific, with the support of the Australian government through Export Finance Australia.\*
- Advising Westpac, SMBC and MUFG as the mandated lead arrangers in connection with financing the AU\$2.35 billion acquisition by Aurizon of freight rail group One Rail Australia from MIRA and PGGM, and subsequent disposition of East Coast Rail to Magnetic Rail Group.\*
- Advising Goldman Sachs in connection with a US\$375 million loan facility to part-fund the acquisition by Computershare Trust Company N.A. of Wells Fargo Corporate Trust Services.\*
- Advising the financiers to QIC on the acquisition of Pacific Energy by way of a scheme of arrangement.\*
- Advising Carlyle on financing the AU\$1 billion acquisition of Accolade Wines (the biggest producer of Australian wine) and subsequent proposed inventory financing arrangements.\*
- Advising Qube Holdings as a member of a consortium of investors that acquired the Patrick Terminals container businesses from Asciano by way of scheme of arrangement.\*

- Advising a syndicate of lenders in connection with the financing to support Yancoal's AU\$3.2 billion acquisition of Coal & Allied.\*

### **Corporate Finance**

- Advising the syndicate of lenders on the AU\$1 billion financing provided to Perth Airport.
- Advising Telstra on the first update to its AU\$4 billion electronic promissory note programme in 12 years.\*
- Advising the lenders to QIC on refinancing the AU\$150 million QIP fund facility.\*
- Advising the syndicate of lenders on refinancing of Insignia Financial's AU\$900 million debt facilities.\*
- Advising the syndicate of domestic and offshore banks in connection with the combined AU\$975 million and US\$313 million debt facilities provided to Yancoal Australia.\*
- Advising GrainCorp on all its financing requirements, including annual rollovers of corporate facilities, hedging and inventory financing arrangements.\*
- Advising the syndicate of lenders on financing provided to Evolution Mining and related hedging arrangements.\*
- Advising Coca-Cola Europacific Partners (formerly Coca-Cola Amatil) on its general corporate financing arrangements in Australia and New Zealand, and in relation to the AU\$9.8 billion takeover by Coca-Cola European Partners by way of a scheme of arrangement.\*
- Advising the lenders to Ampol Australia on the refinancing of Ampol's corporate financing arrangements, hedging and trade finance facilities.\*
- Advising the US and Australian syndicates of lenders on the refinancing of corporate debt facilities for Computershare Limited.\*

### **Project Finance**

- Advising the lending syndicate for the Destination Brisbane Consortium (comprising The Star Entertainment Group, Far East Consortium and Hong Kong-based Chow Tai Fook) in a role that secured AU\$1.6 billion in debt funding for the Queen's Wharf Brisbane integrated resort development in central Brisbane.\*
- Advising AMPCI as adviser to HKMA on debt-funding the acquisition of a 25% stake in Wynyard Place.\*
- Advising Alinta Energy on the secured senior and mezzanine financing for the construction of a transmission line to connect its power station in the Pilbara to the Roy Hill Mine site.\*
- Advising Housing Australia (formerly NHFIC) on a bid for the Ground Lease 2 public private partnership (PPP) in Victoria, Australia.\*
- Advising Cooper Energy on a funding package for the AU\$335 million Sole Gas Project by way of a hybrid borrowing base facility.\*

### **Equipment Finance**

- Advising CBA on a structured master equipment financing facility and interlinked project development facility provided to EBOS.\*
- Advising CBA as owner and aircraft lessor in respect of aircraft on lease to members of the Virgin Australia group in the context of the voluntary administration of Virgin Australia and subsequent sale of Virgin Australia to Bain.\*
- Advising Komatsu Australia Corporate Finance on a AU\$150 million structured master lease facility provided to Theiss for earthmoving and mining equipment.\*

- Advising Montrose Australia in connection with a variety of operating lease arrangements for aircraft in the South Pacific.\*
- Advising CBA on the structured lease financing of the hypercoaster rollercoaster.\*
- Advising CBA on structured offshore lease facilities provided to Amazon Web Services.\*
- Advising Eurostar on the refinancing of its acquisition debt with a combination of US privately placed bond, bank and public bond financing arrangements.\*
- Advising AerCap on a variety of lease financing and pre-delivery financing arrangements.\*
- Advising the European export credit agencies and a syndicate of European commercial banks on the structured financing of the portfolio of 24 aircraft leased to Air Canada.\*
- Advising Export Development Canada on a secured multitranche facility provided for the acquisition of a portfolio of Bombardier aircraft by Alitalia.\*
- Advising CIB Agricole as arranger on the acquisition by a European aircraft lessor of a portfolio of 25 mixed Airbus and Boeing aircraft.\*
- Advising the Royal Bank of Scotland on the structured financing arrangements provided in respect of the Alphasat satellite.\*

### **Restructuring**

- Advising the financiers to Wollongong Coal and Jindal Steel & Power in connection with the restructuring of the company by creditors' schemes of arrangement (winner of Australasian Law Awards 2020 Insolvency & Restructuring Deal of the Year).\*
- Advising an ad hoc committee of bondholders to ASX-listed Paladin Energy on the restructuring of the company by deed of company arrangement (winner of Australian Law Awards 2019 Insolvency & Restructuring Deal of the Year).\*
- Advising a major bondholder to ASX-listed Emeco in connection with its restructure and merger with Orionstone and Andy's Earthmovers via a creditors' scheme of arrangement (winner of Australasian Law Awards 2018 Insolvency & Restructuring Deal of the Year).\*

\*Experience prior to joining the firm

## **Credentials**

### **Education**

- University of Auckland, LL.B., (Hons), 2001
- University of Auckland, B.A., 2001

### **Admissions**

- New South Wales, 2013
- New Zealand, 2001

## **Expertise**

### **Services**

- Financial Services

## **About our firm**

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal,

lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.