



Mzukisi Kota

Webber Wentzel

Partner, Public Law and Deputy Head of the Webber Wentzel Energy Sector



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Q *How long have you focused on energy law?*

A About 12 years. When I was studying for my Masters at Leiden University, I was trying to decide whether to go and work for an international organisation or return to South Africa, because I wanted to have a human rights impact. I had a conversation with Webber Wentzel, at the time that government was formulating its first renewable energy programme and Webber Wentzel was advising on it. The partners convinced me that the programme would have a lasting impact, benefitting the country from a developmental perspective by providing much-needed infrastructure and would grow the economy through the direct foreign investment that would flow from it. So I came back to South Africa to work in this sector, among other things.

Q *What are some of the biggest energy deals you have worked on?*

A I was part of the team that advised government on the first four rounds of the REIPPP Programme, helping to design the procurement framework and commercial agreements. I helped with formulating policy and drafting a number of legislative amendments over the years. I was also involved in the recent Risk Mitigation IPPP. I've worked on other major energy infrastructure, including

Transnet's New Multi Products Pipeline, various matters for gas traders, and, most recently, on the Anglo American decarbonisation strategy.

Q *Do you have any unusual hobbies?*

A I am a singer in one of the leading chamber choirs in South Africa, the Chanticleer Singers, which is conducted by Richard Cock.

Q *Why is this an exciting sector to work in?*

A The energy sector is constantly evolving – particularly because it has a close relationship to technology and innovation. This means that as a participant in this space, you are constantly discovering new ways of thinking about solutions for old and new problems, particularly in light of the latest developments in science and engineering. To be part of this sector at the level at which we operate, means we are part of the crafting and development of new products and strategies to ensure that the measures adopted by our clients are, as far as possible, adaptable and future-proof. In addition, the diversity of clients we serve and the different nuances of their commercial needs – even in relation to the common theme of energy security - means that we are always having to develop bespoke solutions as no two matters are identical. This makes for very exciting work days! ♻️

