

STEWART WEBSTER KC

YEAR OF CALL: 2012 | YEAR OF SILK: 2024

Stewart's practice is focused on complex commercial disputes in Australian courts and in arbitral proceedings.

He advises and appears for multi-nationals, Australian public companies, external administrators and government entities across the full breadth of matters including large-scale disputes in the energy & resources, building & construction and IT sectors. Stewart maintains an active interest in the application of generative AI to legal practice, including the regulatory, evidentiary, and liability questions.

Stewart is ranked as a leading silk in various legal directories, including Chambers & Partners 2026 and the Legal 500 Asia Pacific Guide 2026 (New Silks – Band 1).

Stewart's past experience includes work at leading Japanese law firm Nishimura & Asahi in Tokyo.

LEVEL
TWENTY
SEVEN
CHAMBERS



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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Appellate, Arbitration, Banking, Building & Construction, Commercial Equity, Contract, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Corporations, International, Judicial Review & Administrative, Resources & Energy.

SELECTED CASES

KGLNG E&P Pty Ltd v Santos Toga Pty Ltd[2025] QCA 114

June 2025, Appellate, Contract, Resources & Energy

Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd v Park (Liquidators) of Queensland Nickel Pty Ltd (in liq)[2025] FCAFC 129

September 2025, Contract

Taringa Property Group Pty Ltd v Kenik Pty Ltd[2025] QSC 222

September 2025, Contract, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

Catalyst Townsville SPV No 1 Pty Ltd v The Presbyterian Church of Queensland (receivers and managers appointed); Catalyst Corinda SPV No 2 Pty Ltd v The Presbyterian Church of Queensland (receivers and managers appointed); The Presbyterian Church of Queensland (receivers and managers appointed) v Catalyst Carina SPV Pty Ltd & Anor [2025] QSC 255

October 2025, Commercial Equity, Corporations

Director, Professional Services Review v Yoong [2025] FCAFC 95

July 2025, Judicial Review & Administrative

Park, in the matter of IG Power (Callide) Ltd (Administrators Appointed) (No 4) [2024] FCA 1316

November 2024, Corporations

Austin BMI Pty Ltd v Deputy Premier [2023] QSC 95

May 2023, Judicial Review & Administrative

Jolan Pty Ltd v Essential Investments Pty Ltd (No 2) [2021] FCA 1533

December 2021, Corporations

Sunland Group Limited v Gold Coast City Council [2021] HCA 35

November 2021, Appellate, Land Law & Property, Planning & Environment

The Presbyterian Church of Queensland Incorporated by Letters Patent v Attorney-General for the State of Queensland [2021] QSC 136

June 2021, Corporations, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

Mineralogy Pty Ltd & Anor v The State of Western Australia [2020] QSC 344

November 2020, Resources & Energy, Judicial Review & Administrative

Glencore Coal Queensland Pty Limited v Aurizon Network Pty Ltd & Ors; Yarrabee Coal Company Pty Ltd & Ors v Aurizon Network Pty Ltd & Ors [2020] QCA 182

September 2020, Contract

Shafston Avenue Construction Pty Ltd v McCann [2020] FCAFC 85

May 2020, Appellate, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy, Corporations

Aronis & Anor v Aronis (No 2) [2020] QCA 153

February 2020, Appellate, Land Law & Property

Cherwell Creek Coal Pty Ltd v BHP Queensland Coal Investments Pty Ltd & Ors (No 27) [2020] QLC 32

September 2020, Land Law & Property, Contract, Resources & Energy

Rimfire Constructions (Qld) Pty Ltd (in liq) v CRCG-Rimfire Pty Ltd [2020] QSC 92

May 2020, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

Emperor Investment Group Pty Ltd v Delta Law Pty Ltd and Anor; Emperor Investment Group Pty Ltd & Anor v Rozario & Ors [2019] QSC 307

December 2019, Corporations

Queensland Nickel Sales Pty Ltd & Ors v Mount Isa Mines Limited [2019] QCA 32

February 2019, Appellate, Commercial Equity, Contract, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

China First Pty Ltd & Anor v Mount Isa Mines Limited & Ors [2018] QCA 350

December 2018, Appellate, Contract

Australian Conservation Foundation Incorporated v Minister for the Environment and Energy (2017) 251 FCR 359; [2017] FCAFC 134

August 2017, Appellate, Judicial Review & Administrative, Resources & Energy

Lee v Abedian [2017] 1 Qd R 549; [2016] QSC 92

April 2016, Professional Negligence

Callide Power Management Pty Ltd v Callide Coalfields (Sales) Pty Ltd; CS Energy Ltd v Callide Coalfields (Sales) Pty Ltd (No5) [2016] QSC 199

August 2016, Contract, Resources & Energy

Burragubba v Minister for Natural Resources and Mines (2016) 222 LGERA 13; [2016] QSC 273

November 2016, Judicial Review & Administrative, Resources & Energy

Wilmar Sugar Australia Limited v Queensland Sugar Limited (2016) 335 ALR 72

February 2016, Corporations, Commercial Equity, Contract

IBM Australia Ltd v State of Queensland [2015] QSC 342

December 2015, Commercial Equity, Contract, Competition & Consumer

Re RiverCity Motorway Pty Limited (Administrators Appointed) (Receivers and Managers Appointed) (2014) 225 FCR 541

September 2014, Corporations, Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy

Hwang v Lawrie [2014] 1 Qd R 562

July 2013, Appellate, Commercial Equity

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission v Flight Centre Limited (No 2) (2014) 307 ALR 209; (No 3) [2014] FCA 292

December 2013, Competition & Consumer

Kelly v Commissioner of Taxation (2013) 213 FCR 460; [2013] FCAFC 88

August 2013, Tax, Appellate

EXPERIENCE

Stewart has a wealth of experience in providing strategic advice and appearing in the superior courts of Australia and in arbitral proceedings in broad range of commercial disputes, a short selection of which appear below.

Arbitrations and related matters

- *Representing a publicly listed head contractor in a large domestic arbitration against a multinational company contracted to provide services on a large infrastructure project (instructed by Ashurst)*
- *Represented a large infrastructure provider in a multi-party expert determination concerning fees payable in relation to a \$1 billion infrastructure upgrade project (instructed by Quinn Emanuel)*
- *Represented a global resources company in a multi-party long-term contract pricing clause arbitration (instructed by Allens)*
- *Represented McConnell Dowell in proceedings to set aside an arbitral award relating to a building & construction dispute on a large LNG project (instructed by Pinsent Masons)*

Substantial or high-profile trials and other proceedings at first instance

- *Acting for CS Energy Limited and Callide Energy Pty Ltd in proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia involving an insurance claim for over \$100 million relating to catastrophic damage to a generating unit at the Callide C Power Station (instructed by Clayton Utz)*
- *Acting for Airservices Australia in Supreme Court proceedings brought by the Brisbane Airport Corporation relating to alleged environmental contamination from PFAS chemicals in fire-fighting foam (instructed by Maddocks)*
- *Represented Glencore in a four-week trial in the Supreme Court of Queensland involving a claim in relation to alleged lead contamination from the Mt Isa mine (instructed by Allens)*
- *Represented the Receivers and Managers of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland in a substantial trial concerning substantial debts alleged to be owing to a real estate investment fund.*
- *Represented the Sunland Group in a series of proceedings in the Planning & Environment Court, Federal Court, Queensland Court of Appeal and the High Court of Australia concerning a large multi-stage mixed use development on the Gold Coast which resulted in the Queensland government introducing legislative changes (instructed by Holding Redlich).*
- *Represented the Sunland Group in Supreme Court proceedings for damages relating to the involvement of Australian citizens in a high-profile land transaction in Dubai (instructed by Holding Redlich)*
- *Represented Anglo-American in a major contractual dispute with two power station customers (instructed by Gilbert + Tobin)*
- *Acted for the BHP-Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) against another mining company in a long-running claim for compensation of over \$100m concerning an alleged lost commercial opportunity (instructed by Allens)*
- *Represented a building contractor in an eight week trial in the Supreme Court of Queensland involving claims for variations, extensions of time and liquidated damages concerning construction for the Wiggins Island Coal Export Terminal, and in related appeals (instructed by Thomson Geer)*
- *Acted for Adani Australia in various judicial review challenges to mining and environmental approvals in the Supreme Court of Queensland, Federal Court and Full Federal Court (instructed by Ashurst)*

Appeals

- *Acting for the Santos Group in an appeal the Queensland Court of Appeal concerning the liability of joint venture partners to contribute to a royalty payable to a Texan company as a result of the outcome of an arbitration in Texas (instructed by Allens)*
- *Represented a Singaporean investment company in an appeal to the Queensland Court of Appeal concerning whether land which the company had acquired had been dedicated as a public road (instructed by Clayton Utz)*
- *Represented Deed Administrators in an appeal to the Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia in an appeal from a decision about whether a deed of company arrangement should be set aside (instructed by Clayton Utz)*
- *Represented Aurizon in an appeal to the Queensland Court of Appeal about the proper construction of contractual provisions between Aurizon and users of its freight rail network (instructed by Quinn Emanuel)*

RECOMMENDATIONS

Chambers & Partners Asia-Pacific (Dispute Resolution) (2019 – 2026)

Chambers & Partners Global (Dispute Resolution) (2025-2026)

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific (Commercial Disputes) (2021 – 2026)

Australian Financial Review Best Lawyers®(2020 – 2027)

Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession (2015 – 2026)

MEMBER

MCI Arb

Bar Association of Queensland

ACICA - Associate Member

Resolution Institute - Professional Member

UQ Law Alumni Association (Life Member)

LawRight (Founding Member)

CAREER

2024 *Appointed King's Counsel*

2012 Barrister

2011 Solicitor, Allens

2010 Associate to the Honourable Justice John A. Dowsett AM, Federal Court of Australia

2009 Legal Editor, Nishimura & Asahi (Tokyo)

EDUCATION

2010 University of Queensland, Bachelor of Laws (Hons I)

2008 University of Queensland, Bachelor of Arts (Japanese / Mandarin)

PUBLICATIONS

Life at the Bar

May 2022

Best Practice International Arbitration in Australia: an Australian view on current issues affecting the arbitral mandate

November 2019, *Arbitration, International*

Proprietary claims and tracing

April 2017, *Corporate Insolvency & Bankruptcy*

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