

Paul Lalich

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Paul is a partner in the Real Estate practice group in Sydney, with over 25 years' experience advising government statutory entities and state owned corporations, publicly listed REITS, institutional investors and corporations and private entities, on major development and infrastructure projects.

Paul has acted on major commercial, retail and industrial projects, rezoning and urban land release, Commonwealth and State approvals, infrastructure agreements, front-end and back-end advice and litigation. He also advises clients on environmental regulation, licencing and compliance, and contaminated land.

He is well versed in Australian statutory approval processes, and has extensive experience assisting clients with litigation, regulator investigations and pollution incident responses.
Paul is the current Legal Member of the NSW Architects Registration Board (since December 2022). He is also a speaker on environmental law at public and CLE seminars.

Paul has published articles in the New Planner Journal and the Local Government Law Journal, and is the co-author of the *Government, Planning & Environment Law NSW* loose-leaf legal service published by *LEXIS NEXIS*.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Paul was a partner in the planning and environment group at a national law firm.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognised by *Chambers Asia-Pacific* for Environment & Planning in Australia, 2024-2026
- Recognised by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* as a Recommended Lawyer in Australia
  - Transport: Aviation, 2026
  - Real Estate, 2025

- Recognised by *Lexology Index (*Formerly *Who's Who Legal: Australia and New Zealand)* as a Recommended Lawyer for Environment & Climate Change, 2021-2025
- Recognised by *The Best Lawyers in Australia*™ for Environment & Planning, 2023, 2026-2027

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- National Councillor, Urban Land Institute Australia, 2024
- Legal Member, NSW Architects Registration Board, 2022-present
- Steering Committee Member, UrbanTaskforce Australia, 2018-present

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Paul is a regular speaker on environmental law and has published articles on a wide range of planning, land use and environmental law topics.

EDUCATION

- LL.M., University of Sydney, 1999
- Bachelor of Economics, University of Sydney, 1992

ADMISSIONS

- High Court of Australia
- Supreme Court of New South Wales

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 29 October 2026, Victoria: Sustainable Data Centre Action Plan Published
- 12 October 2026, New South Wales–No Shortcuts on Scope 3: High Court Puts Scope 3 Emissions Back on the Table for Resource Projects
- 23 September 2026, New South Wales: Data Centre Guidelines Published
- 9 June 2026, Western Australia–New State Development Act
- 20 April 2026, New South Wales–New Climate Change SEPP Follows on Heels of EPA Act Amendment
- 2 April 2026, Victorian EPA Amendment Receives Royal Assent
- March 2026, February and March 2026 Accolades

- 2 February 2026, A Comprehensive Guide to The New Reforms of The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, Government, *Planning & Environment Law NSW*, LexisNexis Australia, 2014-present

NEWS & EVENTS

- 16 April 2026, More Than 80 K&L Gates Lawyers Across Asia-Pacific Recognised in 2027 Best Lawyers, Ones to Watch Editions
- 24 February 2026, K&L Gates Advises Blackbird Ventures in Gilmour Space Technologies' Series E Funding
- 2 February 2026, Nearly 50 K&L Gates Lawyers Recognized on *Thomson Reuters* Stand-out Lawyers List
- 11 December 2025, *Chambers Asia-Pacific* 2026 Guide Recognises K&L Gates
- 11 February - 20 February 2025, 2025 CPD Program–Australia
- 19 August 2024, K&L Gates Bolsters Real Estate Offering With Addition of Sydney Partner and Team

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Mentioned, "NSW Bar, K&L Gates, JWS to represent at 2025 Vinnies CEO Sleepout", *Australasian Lawyer*, 21 April 2025

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Real Estate
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Energy Assets and Transactions
- Environment and Energy
- Real Estate Development and Construction

INDUSTRIES

- Energy

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised on environmental impact assessment and approvals, regulations and compliance obligations arising under the Commonwealth Airports Act and Regulations, and the EPBC Act for the new international airport in southwest Sydney.
- Advised national and international transit authorities on complex planning approval and environmental protection licensing, contracting and regulatory compliance issues in relation to the construction and operation of the Sydney Metro City and South-West project.
- Advised an airport operator on the upgrade and interface of Airport Drive at Mascot on the Airport Major Development Plan and associated infrastructure development, and on the Airport Masterplan 2039.
- Advised the board and directors of a major Australian chemical manufacturer on director and management liability as part of an EPA compliance investigation with respect to the leak of ammonium nitrate from a production facility at Kooragang Island.
- Advised an Australian waste management company in relation to site acquisition and permissibility of waste recycling operations in Western Sydney and Western Australia.
- Advised an international casino operator on casino licensing and gaming laws and statutory probity investigations undertaken by Australian and foreign government regulatory authorities. This also included advising on casino licencing, government approvals and associated commercial agreements.
- Advised NSW Government entities on environmental compliance and licensing issues on the acquisition of land associated with the South West Rail Link, and predecessor agencies on approvals pathway for the Freight Rail Track Duplication, Metro West Tunnel and environmental licencing for the Parramatta Rail Link.
- Advised a leading international real estate investment corporation on contaminated land issues arising from the major residential urban release development of the former Commonwealth Australian Defence Industries site at St Marys in South West Sydney.
- Advised various clients in the property development, construction and financial services sectors on CBD commercial office tower development projects, including 60 Martin Place, Deutsche Bank Place 126 Phillip Street, 151 Clarence Street, Kindersley House 33 Bligh Street, 100 Pacific Highway, North Sydney, KENS site (Kent & Erskine Street, Sydney), and 10 Smith Street, Parramatta.
- Advised international real estate invest vestment corporations on urban release development projects, including approximately 5,000 – 10,000 lot greenfield residential communities at St Marys, Shellharbour, Bingara Gorge (Wilton), Nelson's Ridge (Merrylands), Jackson's Landing, Camden and Newcastle, and development of new industrial estates at Eastern Creek, Horsley Park, Blacktown and Penrith.
- Advised various clients on major retail development at regional centres in Sydney CBD, Wollongong and Newcastle, district and local centres at Neutral Bay, Tweed Heads, Blacktown, Penrith, Marrickville, Wallsend, Liverpool, Castle Hill and Auburn; bulky goods retailing, warehouse and distribution centres across Sydney.