

Arbitrator Profile

DEREK M. MINUS

I have extensive experience as a litigator and dispute resolver, tribunal member, arbitrator and mediator. I am a member of Mediation & Arbitration Chambers, a specialist practice based in Sydney for the mediation and arbitration of disputes.

I was admitted to practice as a barrister in the Supreme Court in 1991 and the Federal Court of Australia and the High Court of Australia in 1992. I have practised as a barrister-at-law in NSW for over 23 years and hold an unrestricted practising certificate. I have extensive experience in the resolution of disputes and have conducted over 3,000 arbitration, mediation and conciliation conferences and delivered hundreds of written awards.

Qualifications

I have been qualified as an Arbitrator since 1997. I completed the formal qualifications of The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) and was graded a Chartered Arbitrator (C.Arb) in 2002. I have experience and accreditation in both international commercial arbitration (I am a panel member of the Japanese Commercial Arbitration Association) as well as a domestic arbitrator, particularly in the NSW Court system.

I am a Nationally Accredited Mediator and was accredited as a mediator by LEADR in 1992. I have served on numerous NSW Government mediation panels since that time, including the NSW Farm Debt Mediation Panel since 1997. I have experience as a tribunal member, conciliator and mediation member of the Workers Compensation Commission for over 12 years.

I am currently approved by the NSW Bar Association as an arbitrator, nationally accredited mediator (under the National Mediator Accreditation System) and expert determiner, by the Victorian Bar as an Arbitrator and Advanced Mediator and appointed by the Chief Judge to the list of District Court arbitrators and mediators. I am accredited as a Farm Debt Mediator under the NSW Farm Debt Mediation Scheme.

Working with Farmers

I have worked extensively in country areas with farmers and farming associations.

As an Arbitrator for the NSW Workers Compensation Commission I travelled extensively to various country centres in New South Wales (including Tamworth, Ballina, Byron Bay, Coffs Harbour, Tweed Heads, Dubbo, Albury, Nowra, Wagga Wagga and Wollongong) to conduct the arbitration of compensation claims by workers in the NSW agricultural industry.

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I have been engaged by the NSW Farmers' Association to advise dairy farmers on their supply contracts, on dispute resolution processes and specifically negotiation training to resolve conflicts between dairy farmers and milk producers. I have taught farmers in the Hunter, Kempsey and Casino regions. I have also mediated disputes between egg farmers and producers on behalf of the NSW Farmers' Association.

I was invited to attend the NSW Farmers' Association's *Mining and Resources Legal Forum* in June 2011 and presented a paper on mediation and arbitration processes relevant to the resolution of farm access disputes under the NSW Mining Act.

I am involved in the development of a national farm debt mediation programme for farmers and agricultural producers as the mediation advisor assisting the Minister for Agriculture, the Hon Barnaby Joyce's advisory group on the development of a national farm debt mediation scheme.

Other matters

As well as legal qualifications and litigation experience I possess business, technical and financial experience and qualifications.

I was trained as a scientist BSc (Sydney University, 1974) which gives me a good understanding of the engineering, technical and delivery aspects of mining and gas industries and methods of extraction.

I have a broad business background and spent 16 years in corporate management and have wide commercial, and managerial experience which gives me insight into the workings and decision making processes of organisations.

Contact

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To view Mr Minus' CV visit medarb.com/members/derek_minus-barrister-mediator-arbitrator