

ROLE STATEMENT	
ROLE TITLE: Director, Project Finance AGENCY: Department for Energy and Mining DIVISION: Northern Water Commercial Unit CLASSIFICATION: SAES1	POSITION NUMBER: REPORTS TO: Director, Northern Water Commercial Unit FINANCIAL: Expenditure - \$ PERSONNEL: As per the organisational chart
OUR CULTURE: The Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) is committed to being the Most Transformative Energy and Mining Government Department in the World. To achieve this, we have developed four key enablers to high performing behaviour. These enablers underpin everything we do. • Our culture is diverse, professional, accountable, respectful and committed to safety. We work collaboratively so we all succeed. • We are committed to demonstrating personal and professional leadership and value being recognised as leaders in our field. • We deliver the best outcomes for South Australians. • We listen and engage meaningfully so that our decisions and actions build a successful and sustainable future for all South Australians. We are a White Ribbon Accredited workplace that promotes gender equality and a zero tolerance of violence in the workplace. DEPARTMENT CONTEXT: DEM (SA) leads the global transformation economy, overseeing the responsible mining and production of the minerals, metals, and fuels of the future, to safely and sustainably generate the energy and low carbon products of the future. It's a staff of ~300 personnel across the state and with a central office in Adelaide. Our low-cost power, leading regulation system and culture of innovation is leading to the decarbonisation of industry, new modern manufacturing opportunities, increased employment and greater prosperity and security for the people of South Australia. We particularly acknowledge the essential role that traditional Aboriginal people play in the energy and mining sector as land managers, heritage custodians, business owners and community leaders. DEM aims to double copper production in the next decade, with potential for a further 50% increase in the following ten years. Achieving this requires a sustainable water supply in northern SA. The Northern Water Project will desalinate water from the Upper Spencer Gulf and transport it north to support world-class copper mines. Our small team is responsible for delivering the commercial and financial outcomes required to reach Final Investment Decision (FID). This includes water offtake agreements, major assessments (bankability, environmental, planning, pricing, SPV setup), and the overall project business case. The Project offers a climate-resilient water supply that could unlock decades of growth in northern SA, while reducing pressure on the Great Artesian Basin and River Murray, critical sources with high environmental and cultural value.	

ROLE PURPOSE:

The Director, Project Finance is responsible for ensuring the Northern Water Project is financially ready for Final Investment Decision. The role leads the establishment of the project entity structure, debt and equity structuring and the establishment of financial governance and controls. The role leads the modelling function and will support key commercial negotiations with stakeholders including future users, key government stakeholders and potential debt providers.

The role provides authoritative financial and governance leadership to support the delivery of a significant and complex infrastructure project of strategic importance to South Australia. This includes leading financial strategy, supporting economic analysis, engagement and reporting activities, and the assessment of potential operating models associated with the project. The role works closely with internal and external experts providing advice to the Department for Energy and Mining, the Northern Water Project and the broader South Australian Government.

The Director, Project Finance provides high-level strategic financial and economic advice to senior executives, Government and key stakeholders regarding funding strategy, debt/equity frameworks, future budget strategy, economic impacts, investment considerations and financial risks associated with the Northern Water Project.

The role also leads the assessment and strategic analysis of future ownership, operating and commercial delivery models, including Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) arrangements, to support Government decision-making and long-term project sustainability.

KEY ROLE OUTCOMES:

The Director, Project Finance, will:

- Lead the development and execution of financial strategies required to establish and deliver the Northern Water Project.
- Provide authoritative strategic financial, commercial and economic advice to Chief Executives, Executive Directors, the SA Copper Task Force, Cabinet and other senior stakeholders.
- Lead complex financial modelling, investment analysis and scenario assessment to support pre-FID project delivery, strategic decision-making and Government investment decisions.
- Lead the assessment and development of commercial, operating and ownership models, including Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) structures, to support Government decision-making and long-term project sustainability.
- Drive the identification, evaluation and implementation of entity structuring options that preserve and maximise long-term asset value.
- Establish and lead financial governance, assurance, risk management and oversight frameworks to support project development, delivery and whole-of-life asset management.

- Provide strategic leadership on project funding approaches, commercial frameworks and negotiations, including water offtake arrangements and other key project agreements.
- Lead the preparation and review of financial and commercial inputs for Cabinet submissions, budget submissions, Public Works Committee documentation, ministerial briefings and other strategic reports.
- Provide strategic oversight of economic analysis, financial reporting and performance monitoring functions within the Northern Water Commercial Unit.
- Build and maintain productive relationships across Government agencies, industry participants, investors, advisers and other key stakeholders to support project objectives and whole-of-government outcomes.
- Identify, assess and manage financial, commercial and economic risks associated with the Northern Water Project and develop effective mitigation strategies.
- Lead and develop a high-performing team, including the Senior Economic Analyst, fostering collaboration, accountability, capability development and continuous improvement.
- Promote strong governance, accountability and financial management practices consistent with Government policies, legislative requirements and DEM strategic objectives.
- Lead, model and promote the DEM Enablers and High Performing Behaviours, contributing to a culture of professionalism, collaboration and delivery excellence.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

- Builds and maintains collaborative working relationships within DEM, the broader South Australian Public Sector, Commonwealth Government agencies, industry participants, advisers and key stakeholders to support project outcomes and whole-of-government objectives.
- Develops and maintains strategic relationships with Government agencies, infrastructure and utilities stakeholders, industry bodies, commercial advisers and other relevant organisations associated with the Northern Water Project.
- **Direct Reports:** Senior Economic Analyst (1)

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA / ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- SA Executive Service competencies (refer to table below)
 - shapes strategic thinking and change
 - achieves results
 - drives business excellence
 - forges relationships and engages others
 - exemplifies personal drive and professionalism.
- Understanding of the resources, infrastructure or utilities sectors.
- Demonstrated experience providing strategic financial, commercial or economic advice within Government, infrastructure, utilities, resources or related sectors.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS / GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- The incumbent will be required to participate in a performance review process.
- The incumbent will be required to maintain a safe working environment by adopting appropriate management practices consistent with the role and demonstrate experience in, and the ability to manage, legislative requirements of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012.
- The incumbent will be required to display the South Australian Public Sector Values and ensure, as far as practicable, that the objects of the Public Sector Act 2009 are advanced and the public sector principles and Code of Ethics are observed in the management and day-to-day operations of the agency.
- The incumbent will embrace diversity in all its forms and demonstrate inclusive behaviours in the workplace.
- This position is classified as a designated position and, as such, appointment to this role will be subject to a satisfactory National Police Clearance screening check.
- Intra-state, interstate and overseas travel may be required.

- Demonstrated experience in financial strategy, commercial advisory, investment analysis or economic assessment relating to major infrastructure or complex projects.
- Demonstrated experience preparing or overseeing complex financial models, commercial assessments and strategic analysis to support Government or infrastructure decision-making processes.
- Demonstrated understanding of commercial delivery models, project governance frameworks and infrastructure funding considerations.
- Demonstrated ability to provide authoritative financial and commercial advice within a complex, politically sensitive or regulated environment.
- High-level verbal and written communication skills, including demonstrated ability to effectively consult, liaise, influence and negotiate with stakeholders at all levels, and manage conflict with tact and diplomacy.
- Strong strategic leadership skills, including demonstrated experience driving organisational improvement, workplace culture, change and innovation.
- Demonstrated ability to adapt to changing priorities, work demands and strategic environments.
- Demonstrated experience leading and managing high-performing teams within a complex and evolving environment.
- Integrity, honesty, fairness, impartiality and commitment to values-based leadership.
- Relevant tertiary qualifications in finance, commerce, economics, accounting or a related discipline (essential).
- Postgraduate qualifications such as an MBA, CPA, CA or equivalent are desirable.

CAPABILITIES:

Shapes Strategic Thinking and Change

- ☒ Builds and manages the capability and expertise of the workforce to achieve organisational goals.

- ☒ Creates a shared vision and mission for the business unit/organisation.
- ☒ Inspires and influences others to assume ownership of organisational goals.
- ☒ Displays strategic thinking and planning to ensure the organisation moves towards its vision.
- ☒ Develops and oversees the implementation of change initiatives in a sometimes uncertain environment.
- ☒ Identifies and analyses problems, generates and evaluates alternative solutions and makes recommendations.

Achieves Results

- ☒ Drives for results while maintaining a focus on the business unit and/or organisations strategic goals.
- ☒ Ensures priorities are clearly linked to both short term and long term organisational objectives.
- ☒ Makes well informed, effective and timely decisions even when information is incomplete and ambiguous.
- ☒ Abides by the laws, regulations and policies determining public sector activities.
- ☒ Holds self and others accountable for own actions and for achieving quality, timely and transparent outcomes.
- ☒ Monitors the performance of the business unit/organisation and seeks continuous improvement.
- ☒ Integrates technical expertise into the organisation to improve overall performance and delivery of organisational outcomes.

Drives Business Excellence

- ☒ Influence the success of outcomes by maximising organisational effectiveness, performance and sustainability.
- ☒ Anticipates and plans for future events, trends, problems and opportunities.
- ☒ Develops the ability of others to effectively perform and contribute to the organisation by providing ongoing feedback and opportunities for development and growth.

- ☒ Anticipates and meets the need of both internal and external customers. Delivers high quality goods and/or services.
- ☒ Carefully manages internal and external resources to ensure they are used efficiently to meet organisational objectives and the SA public sector strategic agenda.

Forges Relationships and Engages Others

- ☒ Identifies the internal and external politics that impact the organisation. Has a clear perception of the political context and reality and acts accordingly.
- ☒ Approaches negotiations with a strong grasp of key issues and presents a convincing and balanced rationale. Identifies common ground to facilitate agreement and acceptance of mutuality beneficial solutions.
- ☒ Manages and resolves conflicts and disagreements in a constructive manner. Encourages creative tension and differences of opinion.
- ☒ Gathers knowledge and shares information from a variety of sources, explores new ideas and different viewpoints and promotes this culture throughout the organisation.
- ☒ Builds effective working relationships, networks and partnerships with internal and external individuals at all levels.
- ☒ Actively listens to others and responds in a clear, concise and diplomatic manner. Adapts communication style as appropriate.

Exemplifies Personal Drive and Professionalism

- ☒ Models and promotes appropriate social, ethical and organisational standards in all interactions.
- ☒ Provides frank and fearless advice and is prepared to make tough decisions to achieve desired outcomes.
- ☒ Demonstrates resilience in responding to changing directions. Modifies approach, process and procedures either to fit a specific situation or in response to a changing organisational climate.
- ☒ Engages in regular critical reflection on feedback and experiences in the workplace and acts on these to facilitate professional growth.



	☒Capitalises on the positive benefits that can be gained from diversity. Uses understanding of differences to enhance the operation of the organisation. ☒Values the wellbeing of self and others by managing stress levels and work-life balance.
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