

William Dorsch

Principal, Claims, Disputes & Expert Services

Professional experience

Will Dorsch is a dual-qualified civil engineer and solicitor (Australia qualified) with 15 years of experience in the engineering and construction industry. He is based in Melbourne, Australia. He has been appointed as independent quantum expert and has acted as lead assistant to the named expert on multiple occasions across both arbitral and civil proceedings in Australia, Asia, Europe and the UK.

Will has gained extensive experience in contractual claims and quantum expert witness services on complex and high value projects in the building, infrastructure and energy sectors.

Will has assisted both quantum and technical experts in preparing expert evidence and giving evidence across a wide range of dispute resolution forums including mediation, adjudication, arbitration and court proceedings. He has acted as an expert advisor for contractors, designers, developers and government bodies, undertaking independent assessments of claims pursued on the basis of changes, variations, delay, disruption, acceleration, defective works and *quantum meruit*.

In addition to his quantum expert experience on construction and engineering projects, Will has worked as a solicitor in London (assisting in disputes resolved in mediations, arbitrations and High Court proceedings); and as a consultant with a multi-discipline firm in Australia specialising in civil engineering design and project management.

Relevant project experience

Principal, TSA Riley (Current)

Major roads projects in NSW and Queensland, Confidential Client, 2023-Current

Will is involved in this class action dispute involving the Tier 1 Contractor. He is assisting the Quantum Expert appointed by Contractor in NSW Supreme Court proceedings concerning investor class action on company reporting on several road infrastructure projects.

Wastewater Treatment Plant QLD, Confidential Client, 2023-Current

Assisting the Quantum Expert appointed by the Subcontractor's legal advisors in arbitration proceedings concerning claims relating to plant defects, delays to completion, and contract termination at a new sewage water treatment plant.

Commercial market development NSW, Confidential Client (AUD\$750m), 2022-Current

Will worked on assisting the Quantum Expert engaged by Contractor in disputes with heavy civils subcontractor under Security of Payment adjudication proceedings, and subsequent NSWSC proceedings. Review and analysis of



Contact Details

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Qualifications and training

MSc Construction Law & Dispute Resolution
LLB (Hons)
BEng (Hons) Civil & Environmental
GDLP
FCIArb

Relevant skills

Risk Management
Contract Administration
Contractual Advice
Claims & Dispute Management
Quantum Expert Witness
Expert Witness Support

Relevant projects

Wind Farm Projects VIC
Melbourne Metro Land Acquisition Disputes VIC
Class Action Dispute re Major Roads Projects in NSW & Queensland
Melbourne Road Tunnel Project VIC
Commercial Market Development NSW
Wastewater Treatment Plant QLD
Residential Developments VIC
GWW Recycled Water Treatment Plant VIC
North West Rail Link Project NSW
Sydney Light Rail Project NSW
Sydney Residential Tower NSW
Major Roads Intersection Upgrade VIC
Residential Developments NSW
Cancer Treatment Facility NSW
Elizabeth Quay Ritz Carlton Hotel WA
Puhoi Motorway Project New Zealand
Metro Rail Project Vietnam
Steel Mill & Treatment Plant Algeria
Road Bypass Project Romania
Metro Rail Project Saudi Arabia
Gorgon LNG Project WA

subcontractor's claims valued at more than AUD\$5 million for delay, disruption and additional mobilisation costs; together with counterclaims for extensive testing and rectification works, contra-charges, delay and disruption, and knock-on impacts.

Residential development VIC, Confidential Client (AUD\$1.0m), 2020-Current

Will has been appointed by Principal's solicitors as independent quantum expert in VCAT proceedings to prepare expert report in respect of the valuation of contra-charges / negative variations, and costs for rectification of defects, at a residential apartment complex development in Eastern Melbourne. Instructed by Holding Redlich.

Melbourne Metro land acquisition disputes from residential developments VIC, Confidential Client, 2021 & 2024

Appointed as quantum expert in land acquisition claims (one claim under proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria) concerning estimated construction and development costs. Prepared joint reports between quantum experts for the VSC dispute; as a result the parties reached a commercial settlement. Instructed by Herbert Smith Freehills.

Director, DGA Group (Jan 2022 – Jun 2024)

Wind Farm Projects VIC, WTG Installation Contractor (AUD\$80m), 2022-24

Will assisted the Quantum Expert after being engaged by WTG Installation Contractor across multiple projects pursuing claims against wind farm developer in two separate Victorian Supreme Court proceedings running in parallel. Prepared independent report and quantum analysis on variation claims, delays, resequencing, damages for breaches of contract, *quantum meruit*; as well as counterclaims arising from component delivery issues, defects and installation delays.

GWW Recycled Water Treatment Plant VIC, GWW (AUD\$20m), 2022-23

Will assisted the Quantum Expert appointed by the utility's legal advisors in Supreme Court of Victoria proceedings concerning claims against main contractor for rectification costs to address civil, electrical, mechanical, chemical and process defects established at a recycled water treatment plant. A confidential settlement was reached.

North West Rail Link Project NSW, JV Contractors (AUD\$3.7b), 2022-23

Will worked on assisting the Quantum Expert engaged by JV contractor for a design, construct, finance, operate and maintain an urban metro project. Analysis on disputed claims valued at approx. AUD\$250m against the design consortium over additional construction costs and delays as a result of alleged design failings and design changes.

Sydney Light Rail Infrastructure Project NSW, JV Contractor (AUD\$1.2b), 2022-23

Assisting the Quantum Expert engaged by JV contractor in arbitration proceedings against other JV contractor concerning disputed cost share provisions on subcontractor costs and management costs, JV contractor cost management and reporting, and project delays.

Sydney residential tower NSW, Confidential Client (AUD\$3.5m), 2022

Assisting the Quantum Expert appointed by the Contractor's legal advisors concerning disputed claims for rectification costs to address widespread defects on building facades.

Major roads intersection upgrade VIC, MACA (AUD\$15m), 2022

Assisting the Quantum Expert appointed by the Contractor's legal advisors in domestic arbitration concerning claims for variations and delay and disruption on upgrade works at an intersection of five major arterial roads in suburban Melbourne. Contractor's claims valued at more than AUD\$14 million. Parties reached a commercial settlement.

Puhoi Motorway project New Zealand, JV Contractor (AUD\$700m), 2022

Will worked on assisting the JV contractor preparing detailed claim submissions in dispute with design JV entities, related to claimed additional construction costs caused by design defects, changes in design and other design issues.

Residential development NSW, Confidential Client (AUD\$2.5m), 2022

Appointed by Principal's solicitors to prepare independent assessment and cost estimates for rectification works on hundreds of building defect items, based upon scope of works established by multiple technical experts.

Cancer treatment facility NSW, Confidential Client (AUD\$260m), 2022

Expert report prepared to provide expert opinion on the total rectification and replacement cost for all potable water pipework in functioning health facility to remedy widespread pipe failures and contamination issues.

Single storey residence NSW, Private Client (AUD\$1.0m), 2022

Appointed by owner's solicitors to prepare cost estimates for rectification works on insurance claim arising from fire at residence. Undertook a site inspection and prepared detailed first principles cost estimates.

Director, HKA (was Hill International) (Sep 2015 – Dec 2021)

Melbourne Road Tunnel Project VIC, JV Contractor (AUD\$5b), 2019-21

Will was appointed by the Contractor's legal advisors to provide independent expert advice in relation to a D&C contract on major road tunnel infrastructure project.

Metro Rail Project Saudi Arabia, Design Subcontractor (USD\$10b), 2015-21

Will assisted the Quantum Expert engaged by a design subcontractor in two parallel ICC arbitrations (London and Geneva) to assess claims valued at more than USD\$180 million for changes in scope, design execution and significant delay and disruption arising out of a major rail infrastructure project in Saudi Arabia. The disputes spanned across several design subcontracts and counterclaims valued at more than USD\$750 million arising from the design and construction of rail viaducts, depots, underground and at-grade stations.

Metro Rail Project Vietnam, Alstom / Colas / Thales Joint Venture, (€280m), 2021

Will was appointed by JV contractor constructing new metro rail line in Vietnam under modified FIDIC Contract. He was to prepare significant claims for prolongation / EOT, extension and disruption to contractor's packages of works across elevated and underground sections, as well as claims for mitigation measures and contra-charges.

Health facility ACT, Confidential Client, 2021

Will was assistant to the appointed quantum expert on a dispute concerning rectification works and betterment on a multistorey health facility. He conducted a review and analysis of actual costs incurred in replacement and improved works, preparation of elemental cost breakdown for counterfactual scope of design and construction works.

Transmission and distribution infrastructure project VIC, AusNet, 2019

Advising the Operator of significant electricity and gas infrastructure in Victoria on quantum scenarios from potential contractual disputes and termination issues with several maintenance and operations contractors.

Elizabeth Quay Ritz Carlton hotel development WA, SRG (AUD\$35m), 2019

Will was appointed by integrated service subcontractors to provide independent quantum expert advice to advance claims against head contractor concerning variations; delay and prolongation; and disruption to installation works for scaffolding, formwork and façades.

Gorgon LNG Project WA, EPC Contractor (AUD\$3b), 2017-18

Assisting the Quantum Expert engaged by EPC Contractor for marine works package, in an arbitration concerning the Contractor's multi-billion dollar claims for variations, extension of time, and delay / disruption due to adverse weather and changing project requirements. Involved in detailed quantum analysis and expert report preparation.

Subsea Equipment for WA Offshore Gas Project, Confidential Client (USD\$1b), 2017-18

Will worked as part of a consulting team of expert advisors that assisted a global subsea equipment specialist to reach a negotiated commercial outcome for its claims for c. USD\$300 million in negotiations with the Operator. He conducted a review of Operator's counterclaims for c. USD\$325 million concerning delay, defective work and performance and interface management.

Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm UK, Quantum Expert (£1.5b), 2017-18

Will worked on assisting the Quantum Expert engaged by steel fabricator defending claim for more than £250 million in damages in the Technology and Construction Court, arising out of welding defects discovered during installation at an offshore wind farm in the North Sea. Case considered awards resulting from previous LCIA arbitrations and quantum assessments based on the Court's findings on liability arising from breaches of contract (relating to workmanship obligations). Quantum Expert gave evidence at hearing in TCC, London. Reported judgments include *Fluor v Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industry Co, Ltd* [2018] EWHC 1 (TCC); and [2018] EWHC 490 (TCC).

Road Bypass Project Romania, JV Contractor (€90m), 2018

Will worked on assisting the Quantum Expert engaged by JV Contractor in an arbitration claim for approximately €20 million arising out of a motorway bypass project where the Contractor was engaged under a FIDIC Yellow Book Contract. He assisted the Quantum Expert at ICC arbitration hearing in Paris.

Steel Mill and Treatment Plant Algeria, Cooperativa Muratori e Cementisti (USD\$2b), 2018

Will advised the civil subcontractor on legal issues and claims management arising out of termination of its subcontract by EPCM contractor, and disputes over interim payments and defects during construction of new steel mill facility in ports in Algeria.

Biodiesel Plant in Rotterdam Netherlands, Neste (€850m), 2017-18

Will assisted the Quantum Expert engaged by owner / operator of the biodiesel plant in an ICC arbitration in connection with claims (c. €40 million) by piping contractor for additional costs, delay, disruption and acceleration in the construction of biodiesel plant. The contractor's claims were rejected wholly.

Hotel and residential development in London UK, Adjudication dispute (£50m), 2017

Will assisted the Adjudicator appointed by the parties in several statutory adjudications as a claims and quantum advisor. The adjudications concerned complex contract interpretation issues, and the D&B Contractor's claims for variations, prolongation / delay, unforeseen site conditions and the Developer's counterclaims for liquidated damages, set-off and contra charges.

Luxury residential development in London UK, D&B Contractor (£10m), 2017

Will was engaged by D&B Contractor to advance its claims under JCT Contract for loss and expense arising from project delay / disruption, disputed variations and PC.

QCLNG Onshore Pipeline Project, QGC (AUD\$1.4b), 2015-17

Will assisted the Quantum Expert engaged by the Owner / Operator in an ICC arbitration concerning the main contractor's claims valued at more than AUD\$1 million for breach of contract, *quantum meruit*, thickening and prolongation of resources, delay / disruption and variations arising out of the construction of major gas pipelines and associated plant facilities. He was responsible for the drafting of expert reports and joint statements. Will also assisted the Quantum Expert at multiple arbitration hearings in Brisbane.

Aust. Qualified Solicitor (& Paralegal), Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer (Feb 2011 – Aug 2015)

OCENSA Pipeline Group Litigation UK / Colombia, BP-Equion Energia, 2011-15

Will acted for a major energy company in High Court (TCC) proceedings, defending a group action brought by Colombian landowners claiming compensation for environmental damage allegedly caused by the construction of OCENSA pipeline in Colombia. The case culminated in a trial over 63 hearing days. Will was involved in the preparation of expert reports in nine disciplines including geotechnical engineering, various environmental sciences, project management and economics; preparation of factual witness statements; disclosure review; and mediation. All claims were dismissed at trial, including: *Ocensa Pipeline Group Litigation, Re* [2016] EWHC 1699 (TCC); and [2016] EWHC 3348 (TCC).

Airport Rapid Transit System Taiwan, Marubeni Corp (USD\$7b), 2015

Will worked on advising the Contractor in its disputes with the Owner over its claims for additional costs and extensions of time arising from noise and vibration assessments completed during the construction of a mass transit railway.

PFI Contract for Highway Maintenance and Repairs UK, Birmingham City Council (£2.6b), 2015

Will acted for a PFI Contractor in merits advice and preparation of a claim in a contractual dispute over maintenance and operating works for road infrastructure pursuant to a long-term PFI contract. He produced successful challenges in Court to adjudication decisions.

Dubai International Airport New Terminal UAE, JV Contractor, (USD\$1b) 2014-15

Will acted for JV Contractor in an arbitration pursuing claims valued at more than USD\$1 billion for delay / disruption, extensions of time and variations, arising out of the construction of a new terminal at a major international airport. Review of evidence on behalf of JV Contractor on variations, substantiation of entitlement and quantum.

Hungary, Oil and Gas exploration, Dutch Exploration Company, 2014

Legal advice on exploration and environmental permits and contract termination, concerning exploration activities in gas fields in Hungary and compliance with local and EU regulations. Preparation of legal advices and letters.

Civil Design Engineer, Aurecon (Jan 2007 – Feb 2010)

SA, Industrial Port Development Adelaide, Client, 2009-10

Will carried out an independent audit of detailed design and contract administration undertaken by the consulting engineer to assist with commercial settlement negotiations with the facility owner.

SA, various education and healthcare projects, 2007-2010

Will worked as civil design engineer on various projects, including:

- Luther College redevelopment, VIC
- Loreto and Wilderness Colleges, SA
- Flinders Hospital redevelopment, SA
- Tennyson Cancer Care Centre, SA
- Holsworthy Army Base, NSW

Various commercial development projects SA, Various Clients, 2007-2010

- Adelaide Entertainment Centre (AEC), SA
- Home HQ Bulky Goods Store, SA
- Western Grandstand Development Adelaide Oval, SA

Breakout Creek Wetland SA, Department for Environment and Water, 2007-08

Will served as superintendent and worked as a site engineer during a wetland construction project within a major river in Adelaide, which aimed to improve water quality and create recreational spaces.

Employment History

- Principal, TSA Riley (formerly DGA Group) (2022 – Present)
- Director, HKA (formerly Hill International) (2015 – 2021)
- Legal Assistant (Australian-qualified solicitor), Freshfields LLP (2011 – 2015)
- Civil Engineer & Project Manager, Aurecon (formerly Connell Wagner) (2007 – 2010)