



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 17 December 2019

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	ARQIVA BROADCAST & COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE
Project Number:	2013-0490
Country:	UNITED KINGDOM
Project Description: promoter's investment	The project concerns selected components of the programme for the 2013 to 2018 period, in particular a smart metering platform for the electricity utilities, Wi-Fi telecoms infrastructure provided to telecom operators and property owners, two new HD multiplexes for TV channels, a new Digital Radio platform and capital expenditure for renewal of existing assets. The smart metering platform will cover Scotland and the North of England whereas the other installations will be located all over the UK.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

Telecommunication projects are not specifically mentioned in any annexes of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2011/92/EU, in force at the time of the appraisal. As part of the telecom sites' authorization process for some major sites the promoter has had to obtain a Screening Decision under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations and the UK authorities decided that no EIA Report is required.

No significant environment or social issues were noted.

The promoter had already a wide array of sites with TV towers/masts that have been also used for new telecom and smart meter businesses. Visual impacts of very few new towers have been mitigated by appropriate construction and operation measures. The promoter could rely on its ISO 14001 integrated Environmental Management System (EMS) to identify and control environmental impacts of its activity, including those from new projects.

At the time of appraisal, it was estimated that the project would increase CO2 emissions by about 10 k tonnes (7% of baseline), however, savings from continuous improvements on design and equipment limited the increase to 5.6 k tonnes (5.5% of baseline).

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.