



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 14/07/2020

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	GRDF - GAS SMART METERS
Project Number:	2012-0521
Country:	France
Project Description:	Installing smart gas meters for the GrDF distribution network in France.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project comprised the replacement of old gas meters and the installation of smart gas metering systems in gas distribution networks in the geographically dispersed concession areas of the Promoter, in the period between 2014 and 2018. The project, applying standard technologies and implemented by an experienced Promoter, enabled to improve the network operators' efficiency as well as customer information and billing.

Given the characteristics, location of the works and potential impacts of the project, and considering the criteria established under the EU and national EIA legislation, the project did not require an EIA. Equally, none of the investments affected Natura 2000 sites, being located in urban or industrial areas.

As regards the telecommunications requirements, the solution adopted was the 169 MHz radio frequency band, as often used in the EU for remote reading.

The main impacts, associated with construction works, were temporary and were mitigated according to established practices in the sector. For smart meters projects, the main potential impact on the environment is from the disposal of the old meters being replaced. Given the large numbers of meters disposed of, the promoter developed dedicated recycling and waste management procedures.

The project may potentially lead to reduction of gas consumption from better customer awareness and thus could lead to a reduction in CO₂ emissions. However, it was not included in the carbon footprint exercise given that those reductions are from customer demand management rather than any technical aspect of the project itself.

The promoter has a well-established health, safety and environmental (HSE) management system, and is ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified.

Based on the information provided by the Promoter during project implementation, no significant environment or social issues were noted.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

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