



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 26/04/2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name: ENGIE FRANCE RESEAUX

Project Number: 2016-0632

Country: France

Project Description: The project consists of the rehabilitation of the district heating and cooling networks and optimization of heat/cooling generation facilities in Paris and other cities in France. The project will include, new small scale biomass CHP plants, new cooling plants, refurbishment of heat distribution pipes and the extension of pipeline networks to new customers.

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project significantly reduced energy consumption and CO₂ (as well as other pollutants) emissions in the city of Paris and in other French cities. The development of high-efficiency district heating and the efficient use of energy as well as replacing gas, coal, and petrol fuel with biomass and geothermal heat generation have a beneficial climate change impact in line with the climate action goals of the different concerned Municipalities.

Temporary nuisance due to construction works (dust, noise, traffic disruption) was mitigated through appropriate site organisation and construction management. Due to the nature of the investment, no significant negative environmental impacts are expected. All investments fall by virtue of their technical characteristics under Annex II of the EIA Directive, whilst the district heating/cooling pipelines are according to national regulations exempted from performing an EIA. The Promoter developed several EIAs for four geothermal heat plants, three biomass plants, one cold plant, and one gas CHP.

The heat and cold plants being relatively compact and located in the urban environment, the EIB standards applicable are mainly in relation to Assessment of E&S Impacts and Risks, Pollution Prevention and Abatement, and Occupational and Public Health Safety and Security. All measures defined in French regulation and the EIA have been put in place, and the Promoter is experienced in the development and operation of such projects.

The geothermal plants are located in the Paris region and both the Promoter and the Environmental authority had previous experience with such systems, which are already in operation in the region.

As for the biomass supply, the Promoter confirmed that EIB undertaking and national regulation are followed to ensure sustainable fuel sources. The biomass supplied to the Project complies with biomass sustainability criteria as recommended by ADEME and defined in Directive 2018/2001/EC, and also as according to international forest certification/chain of custody standards (such as FSC or PEFC). It is supplied mainly locally due to the high transportation costs, and the Promoter has structured the biomass supply of all its affiliates in



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the whole of France with an ad hoc affiliate that is managing the respective value chain segment from the timber to the boiler.

As combustion of biomass could be a source of emission of air pollutants, the Promoter has implemented measures to reduce emissions, especially of particulate matter (PM). Such measures applied for boilers in particular in urban areas with intensive road transport, high population density, and/or complex climatic and geographical conditions.

The Project contributed to securing and extending permanent jobs in the operations, as well as in the regional forestry sectors from which the biomass originates. Occupational and Community Health and Safety issues are deemed to be appropriately addressed in the authorisation process. The promoter has a health and safety policy in place. No special social risks are anticipated for this Project.

No significant environmental or social issues were noted and the project was implemented according to EIB Standards.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

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.