

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: NEXANS ELECTRIFICATION RDI
Project Number: 2021-0372
Country: Norway, France, Belgium, Sweden, Germany, Italy
Project Description:

The project consists of an investment programme in RDI and advanced manufacturing at different locations in Europe in the field of High Voltage (HV), Medium Voltage (MV) and Low Voltage (LV) power cables and connections. The activities span from basic research to a first-of-a-kind industrial implementation, line upgrades in plants with technology developed in-house, and the digitalisation of plants. They aim at supporting the promoter's scorecard in order to contribute to carbon neutrality by 2030, and growth strategy based on serving the energy transformation and on promoting environmental sustainability in all its activities, with improvements in production and the development of advanced more performant and recyclable and eco-sustainable cables and wires.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project comprises six components:

1. Research and Development (R&D) activities,
2. the digitalisation of manufacturing lines and processes in several plants,
3. the re-configuration of manufacturing lines in several plants in order to replace thermosetting material by thermoplastic material for the production of MV and HV cables,
4. the re-configuration of a manufacturing line in a plant in order to move from the production of halogenated raw materials to halogen-free materials,
5. the implementation of a new manufacturing line for advanced submarine High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) cables in Halden, Norway,
6. the replacement of an obsolete line with a new specially designed line for the manufacturing of Cross linked Polyethylene (XLPE) insulated cables in Charleroi, Belgium.

The activities referred to in (1) to (4) are planned in existing, already permitted facilities of the promoter in Europe and should not require a change in scope of these facilities. The activities

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Carbon Footprint Exercise, as defined in the EIB Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tonnes CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

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concerned are not mentioned under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by 2014/52/EU) and will not require an EIA.

The component referred to in (5) involves the erecting of new buildings in an already existing industrial brownfield zone used by the promoter. The local competent authority established that this project component will not have “a significant effect on the environment”; also the activities concerned are not mentioned under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by 2014/52/EU).

The component referred to in (6) comprises the erecting of a building on the promoter’s existing brownfield industrial site. The activities concerned are not mentioned under the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by 2014/52/EU) and will not require an EIA.

Parts of the project aim at electrifying the manufacturing processes and thereby eliminating emissions from the previous use of fossil fuels. Parts aim at rendering the processes more resource and energy efficient. The project is expected to reduce GHG emissions by over 80% from a base line that is already relatively low (>1 ktCO₂/y).

Parts of the project will enable the use of eco-friendly and recyclable materials in substitution of more harmful and non-recyclable materials.

The project is furthermore expected to have indirect positive environmental and safety effects as an enabler of (a) renewable energy, (b) less losses in future power transmission systems and (c) safer electrical wiring and interconnection systems.

The project is Paris Aligned as it concerns RDI activities and first-time industrial application and upgrades and digitalisation on products and their manufacturing process that are enabling the deployment and grid integration of renewables in the EU, and hence the energy transition and climate action.

Nexans pledges to contribute to carbon neutrality by 2030 for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions for scopes 1 and 2 as well as part of scope 3 relating to business travel, employee commuting, waste produced, as well as upstream and downstream transport, as defined by the GHG protocol – ghgprotocol.org. The targets are based on the reduction of emissions of 2019, the base year). It undertakes the following initiatives:

- Use of renewable energy for all sites
- Deployment of energy efficiency solutions at all sites
- 100% of R&D projects dedicated to energy efficiency and energy transition
- 100% of sites ISO14001certified
- 100% of production waste to be recycled

Nexans Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives are highly rated by experts CSR rating companies (CDP, Ecovadis, Sustainalytics, ISS-oekom, MSCI).

Nexans commits to respect fundamental CSR principles, in the areas of human rights and labour standards, the environment, and the fight against corruption. Nexans follows OECD guidance on minerals from conflict-affected and high-risk areas, and commits complying to the United Nations Global Compact rules.

In addition, Nexans requests its suppliers to formally commit to respect these CSR principles and to improve their CSR performance whenever possible.

Conclusions and Recommendations

In the light of the above, the project is acceptable for EIB financing in E&S terms.