



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 15th November 2021

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	GOYA WIND PROJECT
Project Number:	2017-0097
Country:	<i>Spain</i>
Project Description:	The project concerns the implementation of several onshore wind farms located in the Spanish region of Aragón. The capacity to be installed will be 306 MW, to be developed as a result of the first Spanish renewables auction held in early 2016, under the new regulatory framework

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project contributed to the EU-wide target of 32% of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption (RES) for 2030, as set out in the new EU RE Directive (Directive (EU) 2018/2001). It further contributed to the national renewable energy targets as laid out in Spain's Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP). The latter foresees for 2030 a national target of 42% renewable energy in the final energy consumption (RES). This translates into a share of 74% in the electricity sector (relative to gross generation).

The project consisted of nine wind farms with sizes ranging from 10 to 100 MW, for a total installed power of 306 MW, all located in the same area, in the province of Zaragoza, North Eastern Spain. Due to different permitting status, the promoter decided to split the project into two phases, out of which only phase I was financed by the Bank. It comprises seven wind farms Cañacoloma ca. 21 MWp, El Saso ca. 18 MWp, Sierra de Luna 18 MWp, Las Majas II, III, IV and V ca. 35 MWp, 35 MWp, 31 MWp and 38 MWp respectively with a total capacity of 194 MWp.

The plants and related substations (Mata Alta and Las Majas II) are included in Annex II of the EIA Directive (Directive 2014/52/EU amending EIA Directive 2011/92/EU), and have been screened in by the regional environmental agency, requiring full EIA, including public consultation. The project also included the construction of two interconnection lines: a ca. 28-km 220 kV overhead line required to evacuate the electricity produced by Las Majas II, III, IV and V wind farms and a ca. 11-km 220 kV overhead line required to evacuate the electricity produced by Cañacoloma, El Saso and Sierra de Luna. Both the first overhead line, included in the Annex I of the EIA Directive, and the second overhead line, included in the Annex II of the EIA Directive, underwent a separated EIA process, been screened in by the regional environmental authority.

The authorisation procedure and compliance with EU EIA, Birds and Habitats directives is deemed satisfactory. The Spanish EIA process incorporates the Habitats assessment, whereby competent authorities can only issue the environmental permit once the Appropriate Assessment has been satisfactorily performed. No negative impacts on Natura 2000 are expected, as indicated in the environmental permits, if the proposed mitigating measures are duly put in place.



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Commercial operation occurred between November 2019 and March 2020.

The appraisal concluded that all environmental permits shall be provided as a condition for financial close, and the relevant environmental and social mitigation and compensation programmes, as part of the EMP developed and included in the individual EIA reports, including measures to avoid, reduce and mitigate the impact, as well as monitoring indicators, shall be put in place.

Both conditions were met. Environmental permits were obtained between February 2017 and January 2018. The environmental and social mitigation and compensation programmes were established when the construction started. The most relevant activity during the operational phase is the fauna monitoring performed at two different locations, namely at the wind farms and the overhead lines. Other mitigation and compensation programmes included landscape and vegetal restoration, air and water quality, soil, geology and geomorphology, noise monitoring, waste management, fire prevention or control of land occupation and beaconing. These programmes were executed and reported to the relevant environmental authority, both during construction and during the first year of operation, and did not require any further mitigation or compensation measures beyond those related to isolated events.

The most significant environmental or social issue reported by the Promoter is related to a cable drop at A23 highway crossing resulting in various people injured. Two causes were reported by the promoter: (i) inadequate assessment of the situation and resources to use and (ii) lack of continuous visual surveillance of the most critical elements during the maneuver. The promoter remediated these shortcomings and no further accidents happened during construction.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

Based on reporting from the promoter and the lenders' technical advisor, the EIB is of the opinion that the project has been implemented in line with the EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of the appraisal.