



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 17 December 2021

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name: SPAIN GAS NETWORK EXPANSION II  
 Project Number: 2017-0397  
 Country: Spain  
 Project Description: Reinforcement and extension of the promoter's natural gas distribution network in several Spanish regions during the period 2018-2019.

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

This was a typical gas distribution project applying standard technologies and implemented by an experienced Promoter.

The majority of the investments was dedicated to the extension of the distribution network, including the installation of stand-alone Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) regasification stations in several regions throughout Spain (investments in the Canary Islands were initially included but removed from the project scope during implementation). By their technical characteristics, low and medium pressure gas distribution systems fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive, as transposed into the Spanish legislation, to be screened by the relevant competent authorities.

The finance contract nevertheless contains a condition to cover cases such as where an EIA may be requested by the competent authority for a project component. This undertaking requires the promoter to be in compliance with the applicable national and international laws and to inform the Bank on any change regarding the EIA Directive requirements applying to the project components. This clause was not activated as, per Promoter's information, no project component required an EIA and/or appropriate assessment.

None of the components affected Natura 2000 areas. The schemes were located in urban or industrial areas. The main impacts, associated with the gas distribution networks construction works, were temporary in nature and mitigated according to established practices in the sector.

The promoter is ISO 14001, ISO 50001 and ISO 45001 certified and has an integrated management system of energy, environment and occupational risk prevention in place as well as being audited by third parties on those aspects.

Based on the information provided by the promoter up to project completion, no significant environment or social issues were noted.



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The operation provided environmental benefits mostly through the substitution of more polluting fuel sources by natural gas, resulting in an estimated savings of 109 kton CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/year<sup>1</sup>.

**Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:**

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

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<sup>1</sup> Higher than estimated at appraisal mostly due to higher project deliverables than the Bank's estimates used for the carbon footprint calculations, but lower than the original Promoter's estimates.