

Luxembourg, 27th August 2025

Environmental and Social Data Sheet¹

Overview

Project Name:	<i>PROJECT RADIANT</i>
Project Number:	<i>2024-0813</i>
Country:	<i>Poland</i>
Project Description:	<i>Design, implementation and operation of a fixed-bottom offshore windfarm with a capacity of up to 390 MW located in the Baltic Sea region, Polish exclusive economic zone.</i>
EIA required:	yes
Invest EU sustainability proofing required	yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ² :	yes

Environmental and Social Assessment

The project is part of the national ambition to develop significant offshore wind capacity to be located in the Polish Exclusive Economic Zone of the Baltic Sea. Such capacity is deemed to be a key element in the national energy transition, contributing to the strengthening of the country's energy security, and helping to tackle air pollution.

The operation concerns a fixed-bottom offshore wind farm, Project Radiant, with an installed capacity of 390 MW. Water depth is between 35m and 60m. It will comprise the development, construction and operation of the wind farm including all electrical and civil infrastructure necessary to connect the wind farm to the onshore high voltage grid. The project is located in the Polish Exclusive Economic Zone in the Baltic Sea, approximately 23 km off the coast of the Krokowa and Choczewo municipalities in the province of Pomerania, northwest of the city of Gdansk.

The project is divided into two parts: offshore and onshore. The offshore part of the project consists of an offshore wind farm, internal submarine power grid, an offshore substation, and export cable connection infrastructure. The maritime section is in accordance with Polish law (Maritime Spatial Plan for Polish Sea Areas) and Annex 1 to the Act on promoting electricity generation in offshore wind farms (Journal of Laws 2021, item 234). In the onshore part, the connection infrastructure landfall will be made by horizontal directional drilling (HDD) and will be connected to the onshore substation. The final element of the project is a 400m underground line at 400 kV to connect to Choczewo 400kV Transmission System Operator (TSO) station, which is under construction. The O&M service base and the quay planned for renovation in the Władysławowo port are associated facilities.

Environmental Assessment

Wind farms adhere to the national legislation having transposed Annex II of Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU, thereby leaving it to the competent authority to determine if an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is mandatory. Given the project size, the competent authority required an EIA to be conducted. Three separate EIAs were carried

¹ The information contained in the document reflects the requirement related to the environmental, social and climate information to be provided to Investment Committee as required by the Invest EU Regulation and it represents the equivalent of the information required in the template of the InvestEU sustainability proofing summary

² 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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out, one for each wind farm (as the project was originally split into two) and one for the common cable route to shore and onshore part of the grid connection infrastructure, till the Choczewo 400kV Transmission System Operator (TSO) station. The cumulative impact of the wind farms, the connection infrastructure, as well as the nearby existing and planned offshore wind projects was also analysed.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was carried out as part of the latest Polish Maritime Spatial Planning that was concluded in 2019; this informed the decision of considering the project area as suitable for potential offshore wind development.

Environmental Decisions (EDs) were obtained as follows:

- ED issued on 16th September 2022 by the Regional Director for Environmental Protection (RDEP), covering the wind farm.
- ED issued on 29th July 2024 by the RDEP, covering the grid connection infrastructure.
- ED issued on 26th August 2024 by the Mayor of Władysławowo, covering the O&M base (which was not subject to an EIA).

The promoter has refined the project's characteristics with the most up-to-date technical parameters and has therefore applied to amend the first ED (submitted on 23 December 2024), with decision on the update currently awaited. A fourth ED (submitted on 29 April 2024) is being awaited in relation to the quay reconstruction (not subject to an EIA process). The amendment to the first ED as well as the fourth ED are expected to be issued in H2 2025.

EIA reports included a comprehensive set of environmental studies. As part of the procedure, the required approvals and opinions were obtained from consulting authorities. Public participation was ensured including the possibility of reviewing the EIA documentation and submitting comments within the statutory timeline (both for original and amended decision in the case of the wind farm).

The wind farm site is outside of Natura 2000 Special Protection Areas (SPAs), however, the offshore grid connection infrastructure connecting the project to shore crosses the Przybrzeżne wody Bałtyku (PLB990002) Natura 2000 SPA. Other offshore Natura 2000 areas in the vicinity of the Project and that were taken into account in the EIA are the following:

- SPA Ostoja Słowińska (PLH220023), 37 km away
- SPA Ławica Słupska (PLC990001), 42 km away
- Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna (SE0330308), 63 km away

On its onshore part, the project will cross the Białogóra (PLH220003) Natura 2000 Special Community Importance (SCI) area over a distance of 320m, with the remaining section of the onshore grid connection infrastructure maintaining at least 50m buffer distance from this Natura 2000 area. Other onshore Natura 2000 areas in the vicinity of the project and that were taken into account in the EIAs are the following:

- SPA Przybrzeżne wody Bałtyku (PLB990002), 200m away
- SPA Lasy Lęborskie (PLB220006), 6 km away
- SCI Piaśnickie Łąki (PLH220021), 7 km away
- SCI Area Jeziora Choczewskie (PLH220096), 2 km away
- SCI Area Mierzeja Sarbska (PLH220018), 9 km away

The environmental studies of the EIA reports have in view of the competent authorities satisfactorily assessed potential impacts by the project on the sea floor (sediment), water quality, fish populations, marine mammals and benthos organisms. Similarly, residual impacts on human environment and landscape caused by visual obstruction from installing vertical structures in an otherwise horizontally undisturbed environment were part of such assessment.



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Further, there were surveys related to the quantity and type of birds using the project area at different times of the year. The impact assessment for birds is satisfactory, detailing the potential barrier impacts and collision risk assessment. Overall, taking all potential impacts into account, moderate impacts on seabirds from noise, vessel activity and a barrier effect are identified during both the construction and operation phases. In order to mitigate the latter issue, a 4 km wide migration corridor will be created between the project and the nearest offshore wind farm to the west.

Underwater noise is typically a significant issue, mostly during the construction of offshore wind farms (piling of foundations). Noise measurements and a noise reduction system will be implemented during the execution of the works in order to mitigate the impact of noise on marine populations, with particular attention given to the noise at the boundary of the nearby Natura 2000 site Ostoja Słowińska. The use of explosive to dismantle project structures at decommissioning stage is prohibited.

The studies investigated potential significant impacts on nearby protected areas. It was concluded by the competent authorities that the integrity of Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas will not be significantly impacted by the project.

During the construction phase, the project will have impacts on the landscape, including the cultural landscape, due to traffic of vessels, for the construction, transport of structural components, surveys, and supervision. The impacts on the landscape will be short-term, temporary, and will depend on how long an observer can see the construction and the transported components. Hence, the impact is assessed as negligible, although it varies depending on the distance of an observer from the wind farm and the type of the landscape affected. The impact is also negligible during the operational phase, due to the distance of the wind farm from shore.

Climate Assessment

The project contributes to climate change mitigation objectives. The project has been assessed for Paris alignment and is considered to be aligned for both low carbon and resilience goals of the Bank's relevant policies. With appropriate mitigation measures to be introduced by the promoter, residual risks from physical climate hazards are deemed low.

EIB Paris Alignment for Counterparties (PATH) Framework

The counterparty (Ocean Winds) is in scope and screened out of the PATH framework, because it is not considered high emitting nor high vulnerability.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

The direct CO₂ emissions from an offshore wind farm are deemed negligible. In accordance with the Bank's current Carbon Footprint methodology, it is calculated that based on the avoidance of electricity generation from a combination of existing and new power plants in Poland, the total relative effect of the project is a net reduction in CO₂ equivalent emissions by approximately 1112 kt/year.

For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project cost.

Social Assessment

No vulnerable groups are present in the area of influence of the project. There are no instances of physical displacement within the project area, and the project did not use the right of expropriation but all land plots needed were purchased from their owners at market price.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

Public consultations have been conducted by the relevant authorities in the context of the EIA processes. The competent authorities have involved the public by sharing the information on



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submission of the EIA reports together with the information on the possibility to review the EIA reports and on the right to submit comments and requests. At the time of writing, the Bank is not aware of any appeal against the project.

Other Environmental or social Aspects

The promoter has strict requirements for all contractors with respect to HSE, for ensuring a high level of health, safety, and environmental performance. This is ensured by checking the relevant procedures of the contractors and by carrying out audits and supervision of the works at the sites. Further, suppliers are bound by the promoter's Code of Conduct. By entering into agreements, suppliers pledge to observe the promoter's ethical and environmental principles and to put them into practice in their supply chains.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The EIA studies describe the potential environmental impacts of the project in a comprehensive and exhaustive manner. They indicate that the project does not cause significant negative impacts on the environment, neither on its own nor considering the cumulative impact of all nearby existing and planned projects. This also applies to the impact on the nearby Natura 2000 Ecological Network sites. The studies conclude that the planned project is in line with the expectations of national and regional policies and strategies, in particular regarding environmental protection (reduction of pollution emissions), sustainable development (the use of renewable energy sources) and energy security (independence from external energy sources) and is in line with the environmental objectives of the binding strategic and planning documents analysed.

Considering that the EIA processes are concluded and that the project is expected to have minor environmental residual impacts, no further sustainability proofing is needed for the environmental dimension. For the climate dimension, considering the aforementioned climate assessment and the outcome of the carbon footprint exercise, the sustainability proofing is completed with no further actions required. The social impacts of the project are expected to be low, requiring no further proofing for the social dimension.

Based on the information made available by the promoter, and with appropriate mitigations as indicated within the EIAs and permits, it is concluded that the project is acceptable in environmental and social terms for Bank financing.