

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	HALDOR TOPSOE RDI RSFF
Project Number:	2012-0616
Country:	Denmark
Project Description:	RDI investments in catalysts and the related design and engineering of process plants for the fertiliser industry, the chemical and petrochemical industries, and the energy sector (refineries and power plants).

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: no

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

The project concerns investments in research and development that will be carried out in existing facilities without changing their already authorised scope. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is therefore not required by EIA Directive 2011/92/EU.

The project per se does not have any impact on the environment; however the project R&D activities are almost exclusively focusing on the development of energy efficient catalysis technologies and environmentally-friendly applications and process that will contribute to climate mitigation and to the reduction of pollutant emission in the atmosphere. The project can therefore be classified as "acceptable with positive or no negative residual impacts".

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The project will be managed and carried out by the promoter's existing R&D staff in Denmark, at the headquarters in Lyngby. The project's R&D activities are a central part of the promoter's operations and will be embedded in the existing organisational and management structure. The operating procedures in place are in line with best industry standards.

The project specifically focuses on the development of catalysts and technologies for the improvement of the energy efficiency of industrial manufacturing processes as well as for environmental applications that will contribute to reduce the emission of pollutants from automotive and various industrial activities (refineries, power plants, etc.). If successful the project will result in the industrial launch of new or improved catalysts that will contribute to positive environmental benefits for the society.

The promoter claims that, on a yearly basis, its current products portfolio contributes to reduce the SO₂ emission from refineries and sulphuric acid plants by 10 and 12 million tonnes respectively and that its "denox" catalysts remove some 800 000 tonnes of NO_x from automotive exhaust and industrial flue gas, while its ammonia catalysts contribute to feeding more than 1 billion people in the world.

¹ Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO₂e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO₂e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The R&D operations require the use of hazardous materials and gases. The promoter has good operating and SHE procedures in place and was given a “green smiley” by the Danish Working Environment Authority.

Although the manufacturing activities of the promoter are not part of the project, it is worth pointing out that the promoter’s manufacturing plants are ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified.