## **Environmental and Social Data Sheet**

## Overview

Project Name: **EVN ELECTRICITY NETWORKS AUSTRIA** 

**Project Number:** 20130177 Country: Austria

**Project Description:** The project is a three-year investment programme covering

the period 2013-2015. It aims to modernise and extend the electricity distribution networks serving the region of Lower Austria. The project comprises a large number of independent and geographically dispersed electricity

distribution schemes from 110 kV down to low voltage.

EIA required:

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: NO

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

None of the project schemes requires an environmental impact assessment. The majority of the schemes will concern medium and low voltage activities, which are expected to have minimum or null environmental impacts. Other schemes address 110 kV voltage works that will mostly replace conductors and insulation chains, strengthen and replace pylons of existing overhead lines as well as power transformers and switchgears in existing substations. The project also comprises a limited number of new 110 kV project schemes, located outside of protected areas and screened out by the competent authorities based on the criteria of the relevant local legislation.

The Finance Contract shall require the promoter to keep updated any document as may be relevant for the Project supporting the compliance with the provisions of EU environmental legislation and with the Bank's environmental procedures, here in particular screening decisions from authorities and declarations with regard to the protection of Natura2000 sites. (Form A/B or equivalent declaration by the competent authority). The promoter shall promptly upon request deliver such documents to the Bank.

## **Environmental and Social Assessment**

## **Environmental Assessment**

The environmental impacts of the project are expected to be modest and, in most cases, limited to disturbance during construction. The project is acceptable to the Bank in environmental terms. The project comprises in total some 10 km (out of 99 km in total) of new track 110 kV lines, otherwise the construction of the 110 kV lines follows the same route.

Appropriate mitigating measures will be implemented to minimise impacts during construction works. In densely populated areas particular attention will be paid to contain the effect of noise, vibrations and traffic disruption during the construction works.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.