

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: ENDESA NETWORK MODERNISATION
 Project Number: 2013-0408
 Country: Spain
 Project Description: The programme comprises investment schemes under the promoter's 2013-2015 business plan to reinforce, modernise and smarten electricity distribution networks in 20 provinces across Spain. It also includes deployment of smart meters.

EIA required: yes

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: yes

(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 programme comprises a large number of electricity distribution schemes from 400 V to 110 kV. Some project schemes fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive (2011/92/EU) thus implying a review by the competent authorities at the planning/consent stage with due regard to the necessity for environmental and biodiversity impact assessments. Some schemes have already been screened in and the relevant EIAs processes are completed or pending.

Overall the environmental impacts of the project are expected to be modest and relate mainly to noise, vibration, dust, and traffic disruption during the construction, and electromagnetic fields (EMF) and nuisance during operation. The vast majority of the programme schemes are refurbishments of equipment and facilities with limited environmental impact. For the smart meters component, the main potential impact on the environment is from the disposal of the old meters being substituted by this project.

The environmental capacity of the Promoter is deemed to be good; it has the experience and the capacity to appropriately manage the programme. The programme complies with the national environmental regulations and EU environmental Directives and is acceptable to the Bank in environmental terms.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

Appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise impacts during construction and operation. In densely populated areas, particular attention will be paid to contain the effect of noise, vibrations and traffic disruption during the construction works. Typical mitigation measures include also special construction procedures to minimize damages, construction of facilities to contain oil leaking from transformers and other. The Promoter is experienced and capable to mitigate the impacts to an acceptable level through their Environmental Management Plan procedures.

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.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

Project's absolute emissions reach 140,000 t of CO₂ per year and result from electricity losses in the replaced network and from increase in demand for electricity. This project's absolute emissions together with the losses in the rest of the network amount to 3,239,000 t of CO₂ per year. Without the project the network losses would increase and result in emissions of 3,267,000 t of CO₂ per year, thus giving 29,000 t of CO₂ (equivalent) savings per year.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required

The Promoter has implemented a responsible approach in its dealings with the natural environment and follows EU and national/regional requirements including public consultation and engagement with key stakeholders.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The Promoter holds the ISO 14001 certificate. It has developed an environmental management plan and has established an action plan to follow up its implementation. Its environmental performance is assessed by means of a set of indicators. Indicators and the action plan target a continuous improvement from year to year.

Conclusion

The Promoter will undertake not to allocate the Bank's funds to the distribution programme components that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA with the integrated biodiversity assessment has been finalized, approved by the competent authority and sent for review to the satisfaction of the Bank together with the signed Form A/B, or equivalent declaration by the competent authority, to indicate the compliance with the provisions of the EU Habitats and Birds Directives.