

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name:	LATVENERGO POWER DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS
Project Number:	2013-0639
Country:	Latvia
Project Description:	<i>Investment programme aiming at reinforcing and modernising an electricity distribution network in Latvia by connecting new supply points, improving overall reliability and safety as well as introducing smart meter infrastructure.</i>
EIA required:	no
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise <sup>1</sup> :	no

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

At present none of the project schemes requires an environmental impact assessment. The investments will concern medium and low voltage activities, which are expected to have minimum or no environmental impacts. The resulting schemes, characterised by proven technology, short implementation periods and limited environmental impact, should result in a relatively low risk investment programme. The promoter has strong environmental capacity, which ensures that the environmental aspects of the programme will be well covered. The project is acceptable to the Bank in environmental terms.

The Finance Contract shall require the promoter not to allocate Bank funds to distribution programme components that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA and/or the appropriate assessment have been finalised and approved by the relevant competent authority. When the EIA is made available to the public, an electronic copy of the full EIA study including the Non-Technical Summary (NTS) shall be sent to the Bank.

The Promoter shall store and keep updated any documents as may be relevant for the project supporting the compliance with the provisions of the EU EIA, Habitat and Birds Directives, and shall upon request promptly deliver such documents to the Bank.

### Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Environmental Assessment

The Latvian law on environmental impact assessment incorporates the requirements of both EIA Directive (97/11/EC) and Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

The Regional Environmental Boards of Latvia are responsible for evaluating the documentation provided by the promoter, while the Environment State Bureau decides on the necessity for an environmental and appropriate assessment. The Regional Environmental Boards are also responsible for ensuring compliance with the Habitats Directive through the application of the planning/consent process, either as part of an EIA or separately as required. None of the schemes at present are listed under Annex 1 or Annex 2 of the EIA Directive.

<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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

The impacts that can be expected for the project schemes relate to visual impact, impact on flying vertebrates, vegetation clearance, electromagnetic fields, noise nuisance, and disturbance during construction. The project's impact in terms of SF6 and greenhouse gas emissions is deemed negligible. In addition, a large part of the schemes are refurbishments of lines and substations, with a negligible incremental impact. 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. Disposal of used equipment, cables, meters etc is done by licensed waste management companies.

The environmental capacity of the promoter is considered to be good. Furthermore, all the programme components will undergo an environmental screening through the application of the planning/consent process and, if necessary, an appropriate assessment as defined under Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive. . Such assessments are being carried out, either as an integral part of the EIA, or as a separate function, in line with the requirements of the Habitats Directive.