

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: Wind Park Noordoostpolder  
Project Number: 2011-0324  
Country: The Netherlands  
Project Description: The envisaged operation consists of the installation and operation of a 195 MW onshore wind farm, using twenty-six 7.5 MW turbines. The project is located behind the IJsselmeer dyke in the Noordoostpolder. The wind turbines form part of a larger 429 MW wind energy development in the area.

EIA required: YES

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: YES

(Details are provided in section: "Carbon Footprint")

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

Due to its technical characteristics the project falls under Annex II of EIA-Directive 85/337/EEC (amended by 97/11/EC and 2003/35/EC). For onshore wind farms having a capacity of over 15 MW and/or consisting of more than 10 wind turbines, national regulations require a full EIA.

An EIA was commissioned by the Koepel Windenergie Noordoostpolder, a partnership of the cooperating wind energy developments in the Noordoostpolder. The project area is adjacent to a Natura 2000 site (the IJsselmeer) and the larger scheme is partially located in the same Natura 2000 site, for which an Appropriate Assessment has been conducted. On 10 November 2009, the EIA and Appropriate Assessment were submitted to the NCEA, the independent advisor to competent authorities in environmental impact assessments. The NCEA issued a positive advice on 24 March 2010, confirmed by an additional advice on 10 November 2010 taking into account opinions submitted under public participation procedures.

The studies conclude for the envisaged operation as well as the larger scheme that the project does not have any significant environmental or social impacts. The project area is adjacent to a Natura 2000 site. There will be inevitable disturbances and negative effects for species such as geese, swans and bats (more specifically *Nathusius' Pipistrelle*). However, available studies conclude that the negative effects will not considerably affect the protection and conservation status of a potential protection area (following EU habitat & Bird Directives), even when they are combined with other plans and projects. The project will be accompanied by a monitoring programme in which among other things impacts on birds and bats will be monitored, in addition to the baseline studies and surveys carried out as part of the EIA.

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<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.

## **Environmental and Social Assessment**

### **Environmental Assessment**

- Proposed mitigation measures include appropriate working procedures, planning of works during daylight periods, incidental interruption of turbine operation and output reduction to reduce noise.

### **EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise**

- Potential maximum contribution to aggregate EIB Carbon Footprint: Relative emission reduction of 234 kt CO<sub>2</sub>e/year for the full project or 80 kt CO<sub>2</sub>e/year pro-rated to authorised loan amount.

### **Social Assessment, where applicable**

- Not applicable

### **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement, where required**

- As per the EU and national EIA requirements, public participation and consultation have been an integral part of the EIA process
- Public consultations have resulted in appeals to the zoning plan and related environmental permits. A ruling by the Council of State is expected Q1 2012 and will be subject to the final investment decision.

### **Other Environmental and Social Aspects**

- Not applicable