

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: *IBERDROLA NETWORK MODERNISATION AND SMART METERS*

Project Number: *2013-0583*

Country: *Spain*

Project Description: *Investments under the promoter's 2014-2015 business plan to reinforce, modernise and smarten electricity distribution network throughout Spain.*

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 programme comprises a large number of electricity distribution schemes from 400 V to 132 kV. Some programme schemes fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive (2011/92/EU), thus implying a review by the competent authorities with due regard to the necessity of environmental and biodiversity impact assessments. Given their characteristics and voltage range, none of the schemes are expected to require a full EIA.

Overall the environmental impacts of the project are expected to be modest and mainly relate to noise, vibration, dust, and traffic disruption during the construction and electromagnetic fields (EMF) and noise disturbance during operation. The vast majority of the programme schemes are related to refurbishment 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 promoter has the experience and the capacity to appropriately manage the programme. The programme 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.

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 promoter is certified to meet ISO 14001 the standard. The promoter 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 Bank will require the promoter to undertake not to allocate Bank's funds to distribution programme components that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA and/or the necessary biodiversity assessment have been finalised and approved by the competent authority. When the EIA is made available to the public, an electronic copy of the full EIA study shall be sent to the Bank.

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