Luxembourg, 16th October 2015

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	Amber Grid Gas Transmission Pipeline
Project Number:	2015-0117
Country:	Lithuania
Project Description:	The project consists of the construction of a DN800 gas pipeline 110 kilometres long and a maximum operating pressure of 54 bar to enhance the capacity of the pipeline route Klaipėda - Kiemenai. By implementing the project, the LNG Terminal at Klaipėda will reach its full send out capacity. The project will increase the Lithuanian gas transmission system's capacity to transport gas from the LNG terminal for domestic consumption and to Latvia and Estonia.
EIA required:	yes
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise[1]:	no

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

The project was required to undergo a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in accordance with the Directives. The pipeline will cross and will be in a close proximity to several protected areas. The majority of the pipeline route has been designed to follow right of way of an existing gas pipeline. The EIA analysed several local pipeline route alternatives to minimize impacts or to retain the minimum regulatory distances to residential houses. The environmental authority approved the pipeline route recommended by the EIA report.

Information and consultation of the public took place during the preparation of the SEA and the EIA. The competent authority approved the EIA on 6 May 2014. The approval contains certain requirements for construction works, and the promoter is aware of the need to meet these requirements and to monitor the project's impacts.

After the approval in May 2014 the promoter asked for permission to change the technology of construction works in a pipeline section at the Minija River and a positive decision was issued on 31 March 2015.

In May 2014 the competent authority responsible for monitoring sites of nature conservation importance issued a declaration that the project is not likely to have significant effects on sites of nature conservation importance.

The project is acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental standpoint.

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The majority of the 110 kilometres long pipeline will be installed 12-15 metres from an existing gas pipeline for most of its length and will be buried for its entire length. The pipeline includes eight line block valve sites (10 m x 10 m) with access roads and power supply, two

[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.

launcher/receiver stations, four cathodic protection stations, temporary construction sites (25 m x 25 m) and access roads during construction works. The construction impacts are temporary and limited, resulting mainly from line preparation and laying activities, and can be mitigated by appropriate planning and construction practices.

The EIA includes screening and analysis of impacts on Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) of the Natura 2000 network. The pipeline route crosses six Natura 2000 areas and is located close to five other protected areas. Although the route crosses SAC and SPA areas, the majority of the pipeline route has been designed to follow the right of way of an existing gas pipeline.

The environmental permit requires that the mitigation measures outlined in both the EIA and the requirements of the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment are implemented.

Social Assessment

The main social impacts concern the compensations for losses incurred by the set easements and protection area of the pipeline, including losses for destroyed crops and cut forest. Currently, three proceedings related to the determination of compensations are pending in court.

The EIA includes screening and analysis of heritage/archaeological impacts of the project and pipeline route alternatives have been selected to avoid the territories of registered cultural assets. During the environmental assessment potential locations having features of archaeological or cultural heritage have been identified where further research is ongoing or planned for during the construction of the pipeline.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

During the preparation of the SEA and the EIA, the general public had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the documents being prepared – notices have been published in national and local newspapers, the draft of the EIA report has been made available at municipal administrations offices and at Amber Grid's website, and twelve municipalities held public meetings. The EIA was submitted to the competent authority in 1Q 2014. Public consultation took place in 2Q 2014 and no concerns regarding possible breaches were received.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

AB Amber Grid has an environmental management system in place and holds an ISO 14001 certificate issued on 17 February 2014. The environmental management system covers the environmental protection policy which is publicly available and the Environmental Management System Manual which establishes the procedures for complying with all the environmental requirements on, among others, waste management, use of hazardous chemical substances and monitoring of pollutant emission.