

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name:	CEPS TRANSMISSION GRID II
Project Number:	2015-0778
Country:	Czech Republic
Project Description:	Multi component investment programme covering the period 2016-2020 aimed at reinforcing the electricity transmission infrastructure of the Czech Republic.
EIA required:	yes, for the following sub-project: <ul style="list-style-type: none">V413/416 looping Mírovka
Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise ¹ :	no
(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")	

Environmental and Social Assessment

Environmental Assessment

The programme comprises 25 sub-projects that relate to investments in extra high voltage network and substations as well as to IT and communication systems.

One sub-project (*V413/416 looping Mírovka*, connection of the existing 400 kV substation of Mírovka to the existing 400 kV line V413 by the means of a 25 km overhead double circuit) falls under Annex I of the EIA directive (2011/92/EU). A full EIA was carried out including an appropriate assessment of impacts on biodiversity (Habitats and Birds Directives) and the EIA consent was granted by the competent authority for nature and environment.

The proposed route for the 400 kV line will cross the northern part of the European Site of *Šlapanka a Zlatý potok*² which has been designated for the conservation of otters (*Lutra lutra*). On the basis of the biodiversity study, the competent authority for nature and environment concluded that the project will not have an adverse impact on the integrity of the site. The main impacts on the otters and their habitats relate to vegetation clearance and disturbance during construction. Specific mitigation measures will be implemented in order to maintain the otters' habitats and minimise impacts on watercourse banks and riparian vegetation. In order to reduce disturbance during construction, construction works shall only be undertaken during the period from 4am to 10pm.

With regards to the EIA that has been carried out, no significant impacts have been identified. During construction, the environmental impacts are expected to relate to dust, noise, vibrations and vegetation clearance. Environmental impacts during operation will concern electromagnetic fields (EMF), noise disturbance, vegetation clearance and impact on flying vertebrates. Appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise impacts

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.

² Special Area of Conservation #CZ0613332

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according to the conditions expressed in the EIA consent. These include measures to contain the effect of noise during operation, protection of vegetation, compensatory plantings, installation of bird diverters when appropriate, coordination with local authorities and property owners as well as specific measures for cable transport where protected plants or species are involved or across watercourses.

Given their characteristics and the screening performed by the competent authority, none of the remaining sub-projects are expected to require an EIA or adversely affect the integrity of any European site of nature conservation importance. Overall, the environmental impacts of the remaining sub-projects are expected to be modest and mainly relate to noise, dust and vibrations during construction. Regarding the sub-projects relating to works in substations, contamination from oil leakage of transformers is mitigated through the appropriate design of bunds.

The programme by itself is not expected to emit significant amounts of CO₂. Absolute and relative emissions of the programme are expected to be below the thresholds of the Carbon Footprint Exercise.

Overall, the social impacts of the programme are expected to be limited. Social impacts of the 400 kV double circuit *V413/416 looping Mírovka* have been incorporated in the EIA documentation.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The new 400 kV *V413/416* double circuit (*V413/416 looping Mírovka*) has been subject to a public consultation including a public hearing. The minutes of the public hearing have been published on the public register of the competent authority for nature and environment.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Bank reviewed the environmental and social capacity of the promoter including its organisation, processes and procedures, and deemed them to be good. Based on the information available, the programme is expected to have minor negative residual impacts and thus is acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective.

Prior to any disbursement related to projects *V413/416 looping Mírovka* and *HBM-substation Mírovka II*, the corresponding zoning permits shall be sent for review to the satisfaction of the Bank

The promoter undertakes not to allocate the Bank's funds to the transmission 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 a signed declaration by the competent authority that indicates the compliance with the provisions of the EU Habitats and Birds Directives.

The promoter undertakes to take into account and implement conditions expressed in any screening-out decision or EIA consent granted by the competent authority for nature and environment.



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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, Habitats and Birds Directives and shall upon request promptly deliver such documents to the Bank.