

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name: *WEST OF DUDDON SANDS OFFSHORE WINDFARM*
Project Number: *2012-0430*
Country: *UNITED KINGDOM*
Project Description: *The Project is a 389 MW offshore windfarm in the Irish Sea (Northwest England), comprising 108 turbines on monopile foundations.*

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

EIB notes the following key Environmental and Social outcomes at Project Completion.

The project concerns the implementation and operation of a large-scale offshore wind farm.

At authorisation stage, the main potential impacts identified related to noise emissions during piling of foundations, temporary disturbances of human beings and nature during construction, limited permanent loss of fishing grounds, and visual impacts.

The project's consents comprise a comprehensive set of mitigation measures and monitoring obligations. As stipulated in the Finance Contract, the promoter undertook to send to the Bank an electronic copy of all environmental monitoring reports that it submitted to the competent authorities.

Following this requirement, the promoter in 2015 submitted to the Bank an environmental monitoring report that relates to the entire construction phase of the project. This report was accompanied by a standalone ornithological monitoring report that covered the same period of time. Both reports conclude that there have been no major issues with impact on the environment during project implementation and operation so far.

Post-construction monitoring revealed that export cables have not been buried or have become exposed due to seabed conditions and scour at several locations. Corresponding remedial works were granted a licence by the Marine Management Organisation in January 2015 and implemented thereafter. This did not have any impact on marine life.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter and its external experts during Construction that the Project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.