

Environmental and Social Data Sheet

Overview

Project Name: ENERGA HYBRID BOND
 Project Number: 2016-0349
 Country: Poland
 Project Description: The project consists of a 3-year investment programme (2017-2019) for the modernisation and extension of the electricity distribution network in the northern and central Poland. The programme will be implemented by the majority state-owned company ENERGA SA.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise¹: yes

(details for projects included are provided in section: "EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise")

Environmental and Social Assessment

The project is a typical electricity distribution expansion and modernisation project. It comprises the construction or replacement of power lines with voltage levels up to 110 kV, the development or modernisation of electricity distribution facilities, including substations and transformers, as well as the installation of automation, communication and advanced metering equipment.

Environmental Assessment

The programme comprises a large number of electricity distribution schemes up to 110 kV with majority of schemes being reinforcements of medium and low voltage equipment and connection of new users with limited environmental impact. Some programme schemes may fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU (Polish transposition of the Annex II of the EIA Directive includes only projects related to schemes involving a voltage of at least 110 kV) thus requiring a review by the competent authorities at the planning/consent stage with due regard to the necessity for environmental and biodiversity impact and appropriate assessments.

Overall, the environmental impacts of the project are expected to be minor and related mainly to noise, vibration, dust, and traffic disruption during the construction, and electromagnetic fields (EMF) and nuisance during operation. Appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise impacts during construction and operation. Particular attention will be paid to contain the effect of noise, vibrations and traffic disruption during the construction works. Typical mitigation measures include special construction procedures to minimize damages, construction of facilities to contain oil leaking from transformers, special waste collection procedures and other.

¹ Only projects that meet the scope, 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.

Luxembourg, 14/02/2017

For the advanced metering component, the main potential impact on the environment is from the disposal of the old meters being substituted by this project. When relevant, appropriate mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise impacts.

Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The promoter is ISO 14001 certified and also joined EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme) in 2016. The organisation has developed an environmental management plan and has established an action plan to follow up its implementation.

The promoter is experienced and has the capacity to mitigate the impacts to an acceptable level through its Environmental Protection Management programme.

EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise

This project's absolute emissions amount to 60,600 t of CO₂ per year. The estimated emission savings due to the project are expected to reach 34,000 t of CO₂ per year. For the annual accounting purposes of the EIB Carbon Footprint, the project emissions will be prorated according to the EIB lending amount signed in that year, as a proportion of project cost.

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 Project is expected to have minor negative residual impacts and thus is acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective.

The Promoter undertakes to send to the EIB copies of all EIA screening decisions concerning the distribution programme components issued by the competent authority for nature and environment as soon as they are available.

The Promoter undertakes not to allocate the Bank's funds to distribution programme components that require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) until the EIA and/or the biodiversity assessment have been finalised, satisfactorily to the Bank, 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 take into account and implement conditions expressed in any screening-out decision or EIA consent granted by the competent authority for nature and environment.

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 Habitats and Birds Directives (Form A/B, or equivalent declaration by the competent authority) and shall upon request promptly deliver such documents to the Bank.