

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: PPC DISTRIBUTION VII (2016-0995)  
Project Number: 2016-0995  
Country: Greece  
Project Description: Multi-component investment programme covering the period 2017-2020 aimed at renovating and reinforcing the electricity distribution network in Greece. The programme consists of a large number of medium voltage and low voltage electricity distribution schemes geographically dispersed throughout peninsular and insular Greece.

EIA required: no

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: yes

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

### Environmental and Social Assessment

The entirety of the programme schemes will be medium and low voltage. Such types of distribution schemes are not listed under either Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive and do not meet the minimum thresholds for EIA screening set out in national legislation. Therefore, none of the programme schemes requires an EIA. Environmental analyses, as appropriate, may however be carried out for some schemes in the context of the permitting process.

The environmental impacts of the programme schemes are expected to be minor and related mainly to disturbance during construction, and electromagnetic fields (EMF) and noise 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.

By virtue of their size and nature, it is unlikely that the programme schemes will adversely affect sites of nature conservation. Furthermore, it is the promoter's planning policy to avoid crossing Natura 2000 sites. Biodiversity impacts will be however assessed and, as relevant, mitigated by the promoter during programme implementation.

### Other Environmental and Social Aspects

The environmental and social due diligence has followed the programme lending approach according to the EIB's procedures and standards, i.e. the due diligence focussed on the promoter's capacity and capability to implement the programme in line with EIB environmental and social standards and requirements. The environmental capacity of the promoter is

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<sup>1</sup> 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 CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

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deemed to be good; it has the experience and the capacity to appropriately manage the investment programme. A dedicated unit in the promoter's organisational structure is responsible for monitoring environmental issues related to network operation, maintenance and projects implementation.

### **EIB Carbon Footprint Exercise**

The source of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions for the programme is the ohmic losses of the new network equipment being installed. At programme completion, the corresponding absolute emissions are estimated at 83.1 kt CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. These absolute emissions are however, offset by the reduction of system losses enabled by the programme in comparison to the do-nothing alternative. Therefore, at completion, the Project is expected to enable a saving of 64 kt CO<sub>2</sub>e 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.

A considerable part of the investment programme concerns the connection of renewable energy sources (12% of the total programme 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 investment programme is expected to have minor negative residual impacts and thus is acceptable for Bank financing from an environmental and social perspective under the following conditions:

- The promoter undertakes to ensure that all programme components will undergo a biodiversity screening in accordance with the EU Habitats and Birds Directives. Should a component have a potential impact on a site of nature conservation, the undertaking is extended to inform the relevant authority and implement the procedures under Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive.
- The promoter undertakes to store and keep updated any documents that may be relevant for the project and which support 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.