



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 13th June 2018

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	<i>WindLandKraft Wind Power</i>
Project Number:	<i>2012-0060</i>
Country:	<i>Austria</i>
Project Description:	<i>The project comprises the construction and operation of two wind farms in the Lower Austria region (Austria), i.e. "Leopoldstetten" and "Untersiebenbrunn", jointly also referred to as "Windpark Marchfeld Mitte". The wind farms together are equipped with 14 turbines, featuring a total capacity of 42 MW. All power generated is fed into the public electricity grid and remunerated through Austria's support scheme for renewable energy.</i>

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The operation initially related to four wind farms in Austria that were at different development stages at the time of appraisal. Only two wind farms were realised in the end, as further shown in the following table.

Wind farm	Number of turbines	Projected capacity (MW)	Number of turbines	Installed capacity (MW)
	At appraisal		At project completion	
Leopoldstetten	7	21	7	21
Untersiebenbrunn	9	27	7	21
Untersiebenbrunn Extension	5	15	0	0
Engelhartstetten	13	42	0	0
Total	34	105	14	42

In September 2013, the Bank's appraisal concluded that the operation was acceptable for EIB financing under environmental and social aspects subject to conditions.

Wind farms "Leopoldstetten" and "Untersiebenbrunn":

Disbursement to wind farms "Leopoldstetten" and "Untersiebenbrunn" was conditional on a decision by the Austrian Umweltsenat that was to confirm the validity of the environmental



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 13th June 2018

permit of both schemes. The background of this condition was that after publication of the joint permit for both schemes, third parties issued appeals (a municipality, a private person).

This condition was fulfilled through the decision of the Umweltsenat of the Republic of Austria in November 2013, which rejected both appeals whilst imposing an additional condition on the project concerning noise measurements after completion. The decision of the Umweltsenat was equally and subsequently confirmed by the national administrative court in February 2014, as a consequence of an appeal to the Umweltsenat's decision.

Despite the court rulings, disputes about two wind turbines of the wind farm "Untersiebenbrunn" went on amongst neighbouring municipalities. This led ultimately to the decision of the promoter to implement the wind farm "Untersiebenbrunn" with only 7 instead of the 9 wind turbines, leaving the two controversial turbines out. The scheme therefore has a capacity of 21 MW, as opposed to 27 MW expected at appraisal. It is operational since May 2015. Wind farm "Leopoldstetten" also entered into commercial operation in May 2015 but without any change to its scope when compared to appraisal.

No significant environmental or social issues were noted during the construction and initial operation of the realised wind farms (i.e. "Leopoldstetten" and "Untersiebenbrunn").

Wind farms "Untersiebenbrunn extension" and "Engelhartstetten":

Wind farm "Untersiebenbrunn Extension" was strongly opposed on environmental and political grounds by parts of the population of Untersiebenbrunn and rejected in a local referendum in May 2014. As a result, the project could not proceed with its application for the required environmental permit and was postponed indefinitely.

Wind farm "Engelhartstetten" was strongly opposed on environmental grounds by a neighbouring community and therefore did not obtain as yet the required final and valid environmental permit. Largely as a result of the delay in obtaining the final permit, the project lost its application for a feed-in tariff and implementation has been postponed by several years.

As a result, both schemes were not funded under this operation.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

EIB is of the opinion based on reports from the promoter during construction and operation that the project has been implemented in line with EIB Environmental and Social Standards, applicable at the time of appraisal.