



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 16.9.2019

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name:	<i>Caruna Distribution Network Investment Programme</i>
Project Number:	<i>2015-0335</i>
Country:	<i>Finland</i>
Project Description:	<i>Caruna Oy investments to reinforce its electricity distribution network in Finland to enhance the security of supply.</i>

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The Programme comprised mainly the replacement of medium and low voltage overhead lines with underground cables to increase resilience to extreme weather events such as storms and heavy snow and meet the regulatory requirements for continuity of supply. Overall the programme commissioned approx. 166 km of 110 kV overhead lines and cables, 174 km of overhead medium and low voltage lines and 13 360 km of underground medium and low voltage cables. The programme also included the construction and the enlargement or refurbishment of 10 high voltage to medium voltage substations, and 8170 new medium voltage to low voltage transformers.

At appraisal due to the fact that the initial scope of the programme included components that could be subject of a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and/or appropriate assessment under Art. 6 of the Habitats Directive, an undertaking was deemed necessary i.e. the Promoter not to allocate the Bank's funds to programme components that require a full EIA until the EIA and/or the appropriate assessment has been finalised and approved by the competent authority satisfactory to the Bank. The Promoter undertook 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 undertook also to store and keep updated any documents as may be relevant for the programme supporting the compliance with the provisions of the EU Habitat and Birds Directives, and shall upon request promptly deliver such documents to the Bank.

At completion, the Promoter reported that for all the schemes constructed under the programme all the required approvals decisions and permits were obtained during the administrative procedure. According to the information provided by the Promoter, the investment programme included only one component that required a full Environmental Impact Assessment under the EU EIA Directive (Seinäjoki-Jurva, 110 kV overhead line) it has been approved and published by the competent authority and it was satisfactory to the Bank. The route of the line is in conventional production forest area and the impacts on vegetation and natural habitats will be minor. The impacts in Natura 2000 sites will be also limited (the closest Natura 2000 site is Isokorpi (SAC/FI800145), 2.7 km from the line). The mitigation measures include the use of marker balls to avoid bird collision and scheduling of construction work in periods outside the nesting season.

No significant environment or social issues were noted.



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**Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:**

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