



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 22/08/2019

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

Overview

Project Name:	SGN GAS DISTRIBUTION NETWORK (2014-2017)
Project Number:	2013-0494
Country:	United Kingdom
Project Description:	Investments to upgrade and extend Scotia Gas Network's gas distribution infrastructure

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

This was a gas distribution project applying standard technologies and implemented by an experienced Promoter.

The majority of the investments were dedicated to the replacement of existing low/medium-pressure metallic gas pipelines by polyethylene ones and residually to the extension of the network to connect more customers, in the period between 2Q/2014 and 1Q/2018.

None of the schemes fell under Annex I of Directive 2011/92/EU and subsequent amendments. By their technical characteristics, some of the individual schemes fell under Annex II of the EIA Directive and its amendments as transposed into UK's legislation. According to the information provided by the Promoter, the competent authorities did not require a full EIA for any of the schemes. Nevertheless, the Promoter has a contractual obligation to inform the EIB, if so requested, on any decisions issued by the competent authorities that screen out project components from undertaking a full EIA. The main impacts, associated with construction works, were temporary and were mitigated according to established practices in the sector.

Equally, none of the investment schemes affected Natura 2000 sites, being located in urban or industrial areas.

Based on the information provided by the Promoter during Project implementation, no significant environment or social issues were noted.

The operation provided environmental benefits through the reduction of methane leakages and through the substitution of more polluting fuel sources by natural gas. According to the Promoter, methane losses from the low and medium pressure network have been reduced by ca. 63 GWh/year due to the implementation of the pipe replacement component of the Project (equivalent to more than 100 kton CO₂/year).

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

The 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.