



European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg, 20/12/2022

## Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)

### Overview

Project Name:	<i>LA CABRERA AND TALAYUELA SOLAR PV</i>
Project Number:	<i>2018-0659</i>
Country:	<i>Spain</i>
Project Description:	<i>The project comprises the financing of two solar photovoltaic plants, for a total combined capacity of 500 MWp, and their ancillary interconnection infrastructure.</i>

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

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

The project concerns two solar photovoltaic plants, for a total combined capacity of 500 MWp, and their ancillary interconnection infrastructure. The Talayuela plant (300 MWp) was implemented in the municipalities of Talayuela, Rosalejo and Navalморal de la Mata Cáceres located in Extremadura, connecting to the grid via a 21 km 400 kV aerial power line. The La Cabrera plant (200 MWp<sup>1</sup>) is located in the municipality of Alcalá de Guadaira, Seville, Andalucía, southern Spain, and is connected to the grid via a 13 km 220 kV aerial line

The PV plants and interconnection were subject to EIA processes. At appraisal, all the components had already obtained all necessary environmental permits (Declaracion de Impacto Ambiental), and the authorisation procedure and compliance with EU EIA, Birds and Habitats directives were deemed satisfactory following the Bank's review of individual EIA reports, appropriate assessment on Natura 2000 sites and support biodiversity studies.

For all project components, the main negative residual impacts had been evaluated at appraisal to be minimal and were expected to mainly be concentrated during construction, as the permanent loss of habitat had been deemed acceptable by the environmental authorities.

The environmental impact studies included environmental monitoring programmes, in order to monitor and control the foreseen impacts during construction and operation as well as the effectiveness of mitigation measures to reduce the environmental impact of the project. The programme mainly monitored closely particular indicators of noise, protection of the atmosphere, protection of the physical environment (soil and hydrology), vegetation, flora and fauna, historical and cultural heritage and waste management.

The relevant environmental and social mitigation and compensation programmes have been put in place by the promoter and were deemed adequate. The project was implemented as assessed, and there was no unforeseen impact. During the implementation phase and the first year of operation, no significant environmental or social issues were reported, and the mitigation measures have been reported as effective. For Talayuela, this included among

<sup>1</sup> The promoter decided to increase the installed capacity from 183 MWp at appraisal, to the 200 MWp that were originally foreseen in the EIA reports, environmental permits, and within the land that was already secured.



European Investment Bank (EIB) Luxembourg, 20/12/2022  
others the construction of 25 refuges for reptiles inside the photovoltaic solar plant, the improvement of the access to the puddles that are used as drinking trough for the fauna and the creation of two new puddles, the installation of nesting boxes on the towers of the transmission line and within the site, and specific monitoring programs. For Cabrera, the set of environmental programs was more limited considering that the land was already anthropized, with standard environmental measures for construction (related to noise, dust, etc).

No specific E&S conditions or undertakings were set in the ESDS, beyond the review of the final relevant environmental and social mitigation and compensation programmes, which were deemed adequate. All the land was secured either through voluntary agreements or through expropriation following the applicable Spanish legislation.

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

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