



Luxembourg, 18/12/2024

Environmental and Social Completion Sheet (ESCS)¹

Overview

Project Name: SOREGIES ENERGY NETWORKS & RENEWABLE GENERATION

Project Number: 2017-0173

Country: FRANCE

Project Description: *SOREGIES investment plan comprising renewable generation, smart metering, gas and electricity networks extension and rehabilitation*

Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment at Completion

The Project is a multi-component and multi-sector investment programme to be implemented over the period 2017-2021. The Project is geographically distributed throughout five departments (Vienne, Indre, Indre-et-Loire, Maine-et-Loire and Vendée) of the regions “Nouvelle Aquitaine” and “Centre Val de Loire” and comprises the following components:

- Rehabilitation and extension of the electricity distribution network, including the implementation of a smart metering system;
- Extension of the gas distribution network;
- Construction and operation of one windfarm (Chaunay) and four solar photovoltaic power plants (Dangé Saint Romain, La Massone, Pindray and Saint Sauveur) totalling 42 MW.

The overall, scope, nature and purpose did not change at completion compared to appraisal, however, the detailed technical aspects for the two following items changed:

- **Component #1** - In 2017-2021, the Promoter reported having replaced 228km of HV lines instead of 25km at appraisal, and mostly by underground cables.
- **Component #3** - the 2.73 MW La Massone PV solar plant was not implemented. Instead, the Promoter has successfully constructed four new PV plants for a total of 11 MW.

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

As a result, the contribution of the project for climate action has slightly decreased from 33% to 32%. All environmental and social undertakings were met by the Project. No resettlement was required under the Project. No protected area has been affected.

Smart metering, gas and electricity distribution sub-projects

Several sub-projects involving the construction or extension of 90/20 kV power substations (Champagné Saint Hilaire, Saint Laurent de Jourdes) and replacement of 90kV lines fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive (Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU) and required Environmental Impact Assessments that were successfully carried out. Given their technical characteristics and sizes, the other sub-projects did not require an EIA. They received the authorization to build and operate on time.

The Bank is not aware of complaints resulting from the implementation of these sub-projects.

¹ The template is for ILs and FLs



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Renewable generation sub-projects:

All the renewable generation sub-projects underwent Environmental Impact Assessment and have been granted favourable EIA decisions. Building permits have been granted to all sub-projects in compliance with the French Decree 2009-1414 (19/11/2009), ICPE Decree 2011/984 (23/08/2011), Decree 2014/450 (02/05/2014) and the Order dated 18 December 2009 that define the approval process for ground mounted solar photovoltaic plants and wind projects.

1. **18 MW Chaunay windfarm:** 9 wind turbines Vestas V100 – 105m hub height: completed in Jan 2019 on time. Performance satisfactory. No change in scope, no E&S issues reported.
2. **5 MW Dangé Saint Romain PV solar plant:** awarded at CRE3 Dec 2016. Completed in 2018 on time. Performance satisfactory. No change in scope, no E&S issues reported (wetland restored).
3. **2.73MW La Massone solar PV plant:** not implemented. Instead, the Promoter has commissioned four new PV plants for a total amount of 11MW. All additional PV plants passed successfully the permitting process and were built on time.
 - **3.35MW Saint Maurice la Clouere PV plant**, an innovative floating PV plant in a reconverted quarry (Feb 2020)
 - **3.35MW Messeme PV plant** (Feb 2020)
 - **3.6MW Montmorillon PV plant** (June 2021)
 - **730kW Estivals PV plant** (Aug 2021)
4. **5MW Pindray PV solar plant:** awarded at CRE3 Dec 2016. Completed in 2018 on time. Performance satisfactory. No change in scope, no E&S issues reported, meet the targets.
5. **11.23MW Saint Sauveur PV solar plant:** awarded at CRE3 Dec 2016. Completed in 2019 on time. A BESS has been added to the subproject. No other change in scope, no E&S issues reported. Performance satisfactory.

There is no change in respect to the positive conclusions of the environmental and social impacts of the renewable subprojects above. The Bank is not aware of complaints resulting from the implementation of these sub-projects.

As the final capacity of renewables installed by the Promoter in 2017-2021 is 50MW, higher than the foreseen 42MW, the generation that was measured since the start of their operation shows c. 87GWh/a, well above foreseen 76GWh/a used to calculate the contribution of the Project to relative carbon emission savings (51ktons per annum) at appraisal. The latter is achieved and can be considered a conservative estimate for the life of the assets.

Summary opinion of Environmental and Social aspects at completion:

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