

Sustainability Proofing Summary¹

Counterparty: SIA Ltd. WPR2

The investment supports a greenfield wind energy development located in Smiltene, northeastern Latvia. Once operational, the wind farm is expected to generate approximately 283 GWh (P90) annually and will contribute to significant CO₂ reductions.

EIA Directive

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

The project falls under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2014/52/EU amending the Directive 2011/92/EU and requires an EIA. The operation was subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA) in accordance with the EIA Directive.

Climate Assessment

The assessment of climate adaptation aspects was carried out according to the 'Technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund', using due diligence materials, EIA documentation, and NIB in-house expertise. NIB has conducted a climate assessment for the project as part of its internal mandate process.

The assessment on climate sensitivity, exposure and vulnerability aspects, identifies the risk of extreme weather changes as a potentially significant climate risk. The risk is mitigated by measures such as the development of infrastructure that considers local hydrological and geological conditions as well as in-built mechanisms (for instance, wind turbines stopping at high wind speeds) and good operational practices.

A carbon footprint assessment has been performed according to the 'International Financial Institution Framework for a Harmonized Approach to Greenhouse Gas Accounting GHG emission calculation' and utilizes a third-party wind yield analysis (P90).

Environmental Assessment

The operation has potential minor and low-risk residual environmental impacts, as assessed in accordance with the 'Technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund', related to biodiversity, noise, and flickering.

The turbines will be equipped with control modules that automatically shut down in order to align with flickering hour limits and are expected to comply with noise limits. The wind park design incorporates safeguards such as automatic turbine shutdown for bird protection and seasonal restrictions to protect bat populations. Artificial nesting sites for owls are being set up to further

¹ In line with Article 8 (5) of the InvestEU Regulation and the sustainability proofing guidance ([C\(201\)2632 final](#)). In line with section 3.2 of the Investment Guidelines, the sustainability proofing summary shall be made public after the Investment Committee has approved the use of the EU Guarantee for a specific operation (with due regard to rules and practices regarding confidential and commercially sensitive information).

mitigate ecological effects. Forest clearings will also be avoided during the nesting period from mid-April to late June.

The operation is expected to contribute to improved air quality through the crowding out of energy produced from fossil fuels.

Social Assessment

The operation has a low risk of negative impacts across social criteria. The relevant social issues related to wind power construction and installation generally concern workplace health and safety. Public consultations have been carried out as part of the EIA process.

These findings imply that the identified social risks are considered minor in accordance with the 'Technical guidance on sustainability proofing for the InvestEU Fund'.