

Initial Project Summary

Project Location: Pacific Ocean, Port of Acajutla, and Sonsonate and Ahuachapan Departments, El Salvador, Central America

Name of Applicant: Energía del Pacífico S.R.L.

Name of Project: Energía del Pacífico

Project Description: The Energía del Pacífico (EDP) Project is a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) marine receiving facility using a Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) anchored by a restricted catenary mooring system in the jurisdictional waters of the Port of Acajutla. The Project includes a subsea natural gas pipeline to deliver fuel from the FSRU to an onshore 378 MW natural gas power plant to be constructed on a vacant landsite within the existing Port area. The Project will require the construction of one 230 kV switchyard, two 230/115 kV step-down transformers, one 230 kV substation extension, one 115 kV substation extension and a 44 km transmission line from the power plant to the terminus in western El Salvador at Ahuachapan, Ahuachapan Department. The transmission line requires the establishment of Project Right of Way through 261 individual land parcels and the relocation of one residence used for business.

Environmental and Social Categorization and Rationale: The Project has been reviewed against OPIC's categorical prohibitions and determined to be categorically eligible. The Project is screened as Category A because the Project involves the construction and operation of LNG receiving and regasification facilities, subsea natural gas pipeline, new 378 MW power plant, and 44 km transmission line which may result in significant adverse environmental and social impacts that are diverse and irreversible. The major environmental and social concerns related to the Project include the potential for impacts on biodiversity (both marine and terrestrial systems); worker health and safety; and impacts related to land acquisition, air quality, and noise. The Project is located within the same airshed as other fossil fuel burning power plants and cumulative impacts may be significant.

Environmental and Social Standards: OPIC's environmental and social due diligence indicates that the Project will have impacts that must be managed in a manner consistent with the following International Finance Corporation (IFC) 2012 Performance Standards: PS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts; PS 2: Labor and Working Conditions; PS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention; PS 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security; PS 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources. PS 5: Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement, PS 7: Indigenous People and PS 8: Cultural Heritage are not triggered by the Project at this time. Applicable provisions of the IFC General Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) General, Electric Power Transmission and Distribution, Thermal Power Plant, Ports, Harbors and Terminals, Gas Distribution Systems, Offshore Oil and Gas Developments, and LNG Facilities Guidelines also apply to the Project.

Location of Local Access to Project Information:

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