

Initial Project Summary

Project Location: Kajiado, Kenya

Name of Applicant: Kipeto Energy Limited

Name of Project: Kipeto Wind Farm

Project Description: The proposed project involves the construction and operation of a 100 MW wind farm, construction of the associated 17 km 220 KV transmission line, construction of internal access roads, and modification of roadways to allow for the transport of turbines to the site. The Project, which is located approximately 18 km northwest of Kajiado town, will involve the installation of 63 1.6 MW wind turbines on a 70 km² site. The transmission line will be constructed from the site to the Kenya Power Isinya switching substation on a 60 meter wide right of way. Land for both the wind farm and the transmission line will be leased from individual Maasai land-owners. Although the Maasai are considered an Indigenous People, the Project is not taking place on land subject to traditional ownership or under customary use. Maasai land in the Project area was subdivided into individual land titles in the 1990s. The Project requires no involuntary resettlement and involves no curtailment of access to land or other forms of resource use during operation.

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 represents a large-scale greenfield wind and transmission line project in a migratory flyway which could have significant adverse environmental and social impacts that are diverse and irreversible. The major environmental and social concerns related to the Project include its potential impacts on resident and migrating birds and bats, potential for significant habitat alteration, visual and noise impacts, and issues related to the disruption of Maasai cultural practices, especially during construction.

Environmental and Social Standards: International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standards (January 2012) 1 (Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts), 2 (Labor and Working Conditions), 3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention), 4 (Community Health, Safety and Security), 5 (Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement), 6 (Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Resource Management), 7 (Indigenous Peoples), and Performance Standard 8 (Cultural Heritage) are applicable to the Project. Applicable provisions of the IFC General Environmental, Health and Safety (EH&S) Guidelines and the EH&S Guidelines for Health Care Facilities also apply to the Project.

Location of Local Access to Project Information: The English version of the full ESIA (and Appendices) and the Executive Summary will be in available for review at the Kajiado County offices:

Olkejuado County Council, Kajiado, Kenya
Phone: +254-045-21075; +254-045-21075

The Maa language translation of the Executive Summary will be available at the Esilanke Primary School and the church near the Esilanke Shopping Center, both at the following address:

336 Rift Valley, Kenya