



Le réseau
de transport
d'électricité



Green Financing Framework

November 2021

Contents

- 1. Introduction..... 3
- 2. RTE Sustainability strategy on Environment 5
 - 2.1. RTE enables the transformation of the energy sector 5
 - 2.2. RTE’s reduction of its industrial footprint 7
- 3. Green Financing Framework 11
 - 3.1. Use of Proceeds..... 11
 - 3.2. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection 13
 - 3.3. Management of Proceeds 13
 - 3.4. Reporting 14
 - 3.4.1. Allocation report 14
 - 3.4.2. Impact report..... 14
 - 3.5. External Review 15
 - 3.5.1. Second Party Opinion 15
 - 3.5.2. Post issuance external verification..... 15
- Glossary 16
- Disclaimer 17

1. Introduction

RTE, Réseau de transport d'électricité, manages France's electricity transmission network.

Historically, electricity transmission in France was carried out by Électricité de France (EDF), which had a monopoly on the generation, transmission, distribution, export and import of electricity. RTE is now a Société Anonyme (French-domiciled publicly traded limited company) governed by an Executive Board and a Supervisory Board. Since 2016, the entire share capital of RTE has been held by Coentreprise de transport d'électricité (CTE), itself held by the following shareholders since 2017:

- EDF (50.1%);
- Caisse des dépôts et consignations (CDC) (29.9%) ;
- CNP Assurances (20%).

RTE's essential missions are operating the public electricity transmission network and maintaining balance at all times in the electricity flows through the network.

RTE Mission:

- **Providing** with access to an economical, safe and clean electricity supply;
- **Informing** the options for our energy future;
- **Transforming** our productive resources as an industrial operator, to serve the energy transition;
- **Optimising** the energy transition by proposing solutions to minimize the footprint of France's transmission network and its electricity mix.

RTE is engaged in an optimization process to serve its customers: industrial consumers, distribution network operators, energy producers and market actors. As such, its four areas of customer services are connection and access to the network, metering and access to data, quality of electricity and access to the markets.

RTE expertise:

- **Managing infrastructures:** RTE constructs, operates and maintains the electricity transmission network, which is constantly evolving to increase line capacity, construct new cross-border links, connect renewable energies and reinforce the quality of supply;
- **Designing and implementing market mechanisms:** RTE organizes the electricity markets with mechanisms able to ensure the least costly available sources of power are used, all over Europe;
- **Monitoring the electricity system:** RTE adjusts electricity output and consumption in real time, is in charge of security and supply and guarantees electricity solidarity between different areas of France and Europe;
- **Researching, innovating and coupling power with digital technologies:** RTE integrates digital technologies to increase the network's flexibility.

From the European Union to French regional and local authorities, the declared ambitions for the energy transition are extremely wide-ranging and are already entailing profound changes in the whole electricity sector: expansion of renewable energies, higher volumes of energy trade between European

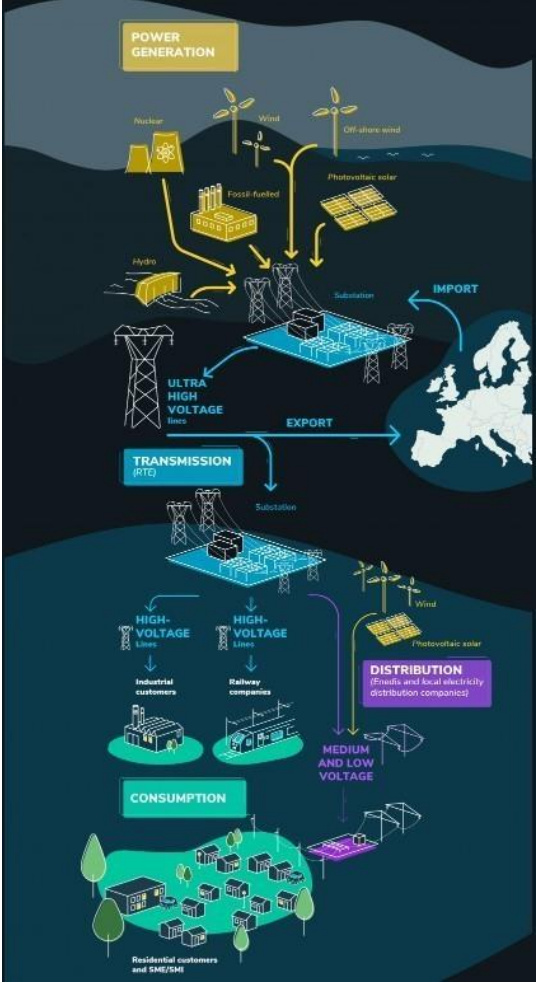
countries, new consumer behaviors, self-consumption, emergence of new uses, development of electricity storage, etc. These changes are also taking place in a technological and digital revolution reflected in new forms of communication, dematerialization, artificial intelligence, geolocalisation, etc.

In response to these transformations and new customer demands, RTE is adapting, making preparations and reinventing itself, to be a driving force in the forthcoming transitions.

The 2025 target of the “Impetus & Vision” corporate mission statement is founded on the following five strategic priorities:

- Increasing RTE’s influence in Europe;
- Renewing the local service offering in order to meet the needs of customers and local areas;
- Reinforcing agility and efficiency in the corporate functions;
- Adapting RTE’s industrial model;
- Working with employees to make every person an actor of Impetus & Vision.

RTE’s strategic position from power generation facilities to electricity consumption:



2. RTE Sustainability strategy on Environment

2.1. RTE enables the transformation of the energy sector

RTE is committed to meeting the major challenges of today's fast-changing energy world. It undertakes to grasp the new developments needed and to plan ahead for future developments in the network by regularly-published energy sector analyses and close attention to changes at European level. **The ongoing changes will continue with initiatives for the environment, to advance action against climate change, and protect biodiversity and natural resources.**

Transmission System Operators (TSOs)¹ have two modes of action to support the low-carbon transition:

- acting to reduce and limit GHG emissions linked to their activity (scope 1, 2 and 3);
- contributing, as an essential link in the energy system's "interfaces", to the decarbonization of the economy by facing on the major challenges of integrating into the system the renewable energies and supporting the electrification of various sectors of the economy.

RTE is fully aware of the historic nature of the changes currently taking place in the French and European energy landscape, and this awareness is duly integrated into its industrial model.

- **Increasing European interconnections**

Developing electricity interconnections is one of the pillars of European Union energy policy. Cross-border interconnections underpin the single electricity market and have facilitated a gradual shift from a national to a European approach to generation fleet operation. Taking advantage of energy complementarities between countries, **interconnections make an essential contribution to the incorporation of renewable energies**, and are a key component of the energy transition. This European priority is reflected in the target set for each Member State: raising its level of interconnection to 10% by 2020 and 15% by 2030.

The key aim of RTE's investment plan is doubling France's interconnection capacity in fifteen years, from around 15 GW currently to around 30 GW by 2035. This ambitious target is coherent with European Union and French policy priorities. To achieve it, interconnections will have to be developed across all of France's borders. Fifteen projects have been identified to develop or reinforce interconnections, and are at varying stages of maturity. Any decision to invest in a new interconnection remains conditional on a socio-economic cost-benefit analysis showing that the project would be profitable for the European community.

- **Facilitating the expansion of renewable energies and changes in the energy mix**

As the network manager and guarantor of balance in the electricity system, RTE must prepare and apply a network transformation program for the short and medium term, to facilitate integration of

¹ defined in the Glossary of the Framework

the future electricity mix. This will also help to keep the networks off the energy transition's critical path.

But as well as adapting the network infrastructure, RTE and its fellow TSOs are now working on changes to the operation of the new system, focusing on two different horizons:

- Preparing for system operation in 2030-2035;
- Forward planning for changes in a European electric system set to be carbon-neutral by 2050, with operation mainly based on power electronics.

The innovations made by RTE are designed to bring in optimised, more flexible modes of operation, notably founded on digital solutions and reinforced telecommunications systems. In parallel, RTE is continuing to explore possible adjustments to the electricity system and therefore the network after 2035, making projections assuming an even larger proportion of renewable energies in 2050.

- [Maintaining and adapting the network for the electricity landscape of the future](#)

As the sector adapts to meet the challenges of the energy transition, RTE's business activities are already evolving as a result, and this involves major industrial challenges. In the next few years, integration of renewable energies and the rising need for equipment upgrades mean that more flexible, optimised modes of operation must be found. In parallel, connection of offshore wind farms and development of interconnections are large-scale industrial projects with specific constraints.

As that the main lines of the SDDR² were validated, RTE must now apply the principles of it through an efficient industrial strategy, develop the new generation of "S3REnR³" regional renewable energy connection plans and program the incorporation of the next new offshore wind farms.

The SDDR sets out a proposal for changes to the transmission network in the next fifteen years:

- **renewal of the existing network:** priority to "everyday networks";
- **adaptations:** structural changes to the network once renewable energies reach 50 GW;
- **the basic digital framework:** some devices need reinforcing to maintain security and efficiency in the electricity network;
- **interconnections:** a sequenced scheduled to double France's energy exchange capacity in fifteen years;
- **the offshore network:** new infrastructures will be developed for effective evacuation of the renewable electricity generated offshore.

RTE must also continue to adapt and optimise the use of its infrastructures. **The R&D teams are working both on the technical aspects of new flexibility mechanisms⁴, and on changes in their optimization.** This will be a key axis of the R&D roadmap for the next decade.

² SDDR: RTE's ten-year network development plan ("Schéma Décennal de Développement du Réseau") defined in the Glossary of the Framework

³ S3REnR: Regional renewable energy connection plans (Schéma régional de raccordement au réseau des énergies renouvelables) - defined in the Glossary of the Framework

⁴ In the optimal development principle, having flexibility mechanisms makes it possible to smooth flows and thus limit infrastructure requirements.

2.2. RTE's reduction of its industrial footprint

As network operator, RTE is also taking steps to intensify this effort by improving its industrial footprint.

- RTE's greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reduction

The main types of RTE's GHG emissions in 2018 were **electricity losses from the network** (53.5% of RTE's total GHG emissions), **emissions from industrial and office buildings** (18.8% of the total), and **SF6 discharge** (12.9% of the total). RTE invests every year to adapt its infrastructures to the energy transition, and has thus contributed to lowering emissions by the electricity system. **In 2020 RTE launched the "low-carbon trajectories" project** which aims to set a target reduction for RTE's emissions in the medium term.

- Energy efficiency action plans for electricity losses

Adjustment of operating plans to reduce losses is a point of constant attention by RTE's operators, and their actions reduce the annual volume of losses by around 1.5%. **The target set by the CRE⁵ for electricity losses is 2.1% or less for each year until 2021.**

RTE has included an internal CO₂ price to calculate electricity losses and redispatching costs in its network development decisions.

- Action for energy efficiency in buildings

Following the publication of the office eco-efficiency decree resulting from France's ELAN law, RTE began an action plan in the Nancy and Nantes regions, and at its head office in La Défense. Feedback collected in early 2021 will be used for the action plans for the other regions (Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Paris, Toulouse).

- SF6 action plan

The principal types of direct emissions by RTE relate to leaks of SF6⁶, a powerful GHG with a global warming potential that is 23,500 times stronger than CO₂. **RTE's objective is to bring annual emissions below 4,5 tons by 2025 and maintain that level in the long term.**

- Low-carbon employee mobility and awareness

RTE launched in 2011 a mobility plan to help its employees to travel "better and less" in order to reduce its environmental impacts. RTE also raises employee awareness with designed e-learning course on the topic of climate change and has implemented a sustainable mobility grant.

RTE decided to launch a Resilience project to identify and assess these weaknesses, based on 2050 climate scenarios developed with France's national weather office Météo France.

⁵ Commission de Régulation de l'Énergie (Energy Regulation Commission)- defined in the Glossary of the Framework

⁶ defined in the Glossary of the Framework

- RTE contribution to the energy system greenhouse gas emissions reduction

Improving sobriety, energy efficiency and energy saving in all sectors of the economy, the strong deployment of renewable energies and the transfer of uses from fossil fuels to carbon-free electricity, particularly in the transport sector or the heating of buildings, are the keys to reducing greenhouse gas emissions at French and European level.

Interlinking these evolutions, the transformation of electric system is a consequence and a prerequisite for the decarbonization⁷ of the energy system in perspective of carbon neutrality by 2050.

For European grid project, an indicator quantifies the avoided GHG emissions on the electric system level. This indicator (B2) is now mentioned in the Cost-Benefit Analysis of ENTSO-E.⁸

Variation in CO₂ emissions represents the change in CO₂ emissions in the power system due to the project. It is a consequence of changes in generation dispatch and unlocking renewable potential. The aim to reduce CO₂ emissions is explicitly included as one of the EU 20-20-20 targets and is therefore displayed as a separate indicator.

- Preservation of resources and biodiversity

RTE is taking a proactive approach to reduce its environmental impacts and prevent pollution from its activities, by introducing new methods and building on training and awareness-raising provided for every employee. Environmental action at RTE follows a general environmental policy defining its ambitions, and an environmental management system involving a programme for action at national and regional level called the “**Environmental management programme**”.

This approach aims at reducing GHG emissions, increasing the surfaces protected and developed to promote biodiversity, and cutting the tonnage of materials extracted.

- Plant and animal life and the landscape

RTE installs devices to limit the impact of its facilities on birds. The company’s bird protection policy concerns development, engineering and maintenance worksites and funds the installation of markers and other devices. **RTE is a member of France’s national birdlife committee (“Comité National Avifaune”)** which involves associations, Enedis and the Ministry for the Environment.

- Developing biodiversity below the lines

Under the biodiversity policy, the company is introducing biodiversity friendly land management in partnership with natural space managers and biodiversity actors.

By the end of 2020, a total 1,235 hectares of land had been made biodiversity-friendly. Under the vegetation policy, a selective cutting method is applied, in partnership with hunting federations. **RTE intends to introduce a new alternative vegetation management policy in 2021.**

⁷ Decarbonization can only be "near-total" due to the "incompressible" emissions.

⁸ [2018-10-11-tyndp-cba-20.pdf \(entsoe.eu\)](#) - defined in the Glossary of the Framework

RTE reaffirmed its commitment to promoting urban biodiversity by renewing its partnership with the nature protection association Noé for the 2019-2021 period. RTE is thus supporting development at office sites of green spaces that are managed under biodiversity-friendly and wildlife-friendly principles.

- [Knowledge and protection of the marine environment](#)

RTE is conducting several research and development projects with various scientific partners, to study and control the potential ecosystem impacts of underwater electricity cables. **These projects study the potential effects of installation and operation of undersea electricity cables** (OASICE project, SPECIES project⁹, coordinated by France Énergies Marines, France's national institute for research on renewable marine energies for the energy transition).

Moreover, as a responsible company with a public service mission, **RTE develops its projects in accordance with the ERC-S¹⁰ principle to protect the marine environment.**

- [Raw materials, the circular economy and waste management](#)

The company is improving the traceability and measurement of its consumption of raw materials, particularly:

- **Consumption of metals:**
 - Implementation of an experimental Raw Materials Pass accreditation system to collect information from upstream value chains about the geographical origin, recyclability, types and volumes of raw materials used;
 - Work to construct a prospective view of raw material consumption incorporated into the environmental analysis section of the generation adequacy report for 2050.
- **IT, telecommunications, and paper consumption:**
 - Ecodesigned hardware, extending the operating life of equipment, sharing resources, dematerialisation, virtualisation, and reconditioning of unused equipment;
 - Raising employees' awareness of environmentally-friendly practices
 - Virtuous use consumables.
- **Software:**
 - Open-source development;
 - Good information system planning is also a factor of optimization.

In 2020, RTE renewed its monitoring and management system for waste produced at its premises and on its worksites by contractors. In 2020 close to 90% of RTE's waste was recycled.

⁹ Defined in the Glossary of the Framework

¹⁰ Defined in the Glossary of the Framework

- **Anti-pollution action**

- **Action against water and ground pollution by oil:** RTE operates facilities that pose no risk for the environment in normal circumstances, but RTE is ready to intervene and prevent any risk of pollution if an incident arises. Dedicated processes exist to identify facilities at risk, so as to improve control of accidental pollution, and the employees concerned are trained to handle such incidents;
- **Action against water and ground pollution by Polychlorobiphenyls (PCBs):** RTE has a specific plan to honour its commitment to eliminate or decontaminate all its PCB polluted equipment by 31 December 2025, with the objective of treating all RTE equipment containing PCBs by the target date of 2025;
- **The “zero-phyto” objective:** The phytosanitary products RTE uses at its substations are essentially weedkillers with active ingredients that destroy vegetation. RTE has drawn up a strategy to end the use of phytosanitary products at all its substations.

- **Professional development for all employees**

RTE’s environmental professionalization group maintains and develops skills in this field by offering specific training appropriate to the company’s environmental issues: understanding the impacts, waste management, third-party safety and biodiversity.

RTE made a commitment under the “Business for Biodiversity – Act4nature” initiative to double the number of employees who received elementary training in biodiversity by 2022, and to increase employee participation in operations to raise awareness of biodiversity issues.

3. Green Financing Framework

This Green Financing Framework (the “Framework”) is designed as an umbrella platform to cover any Green financing instrument in various formats and currencies, aiming at financing Eligible Green Projects as defined in the “Use of Proceeds” section and that comply with the procedures set out in this Framework.

This Framework is aligned with the Green Loan Principles 2021 (GLP) published by the Loan Market Association (LMA)¹¹, the Green Bond Principles 2021 (GBP)¹² overseen by the International Capital Markets Association (ICMA) and EU classification system for sustainable economic activities (the “EU Taxonomy”) as published in the Delegated Act available as of the date of this Framework¹³.

3.1. Use of Proceeds

The Use of Proceeds of any Green financing instrument under this Framework will be subject to the following eligibility criteria, to be applied to new or existing projects. The financing of such projects is expected to create substantial environmental benefits by reducing GHG emissions and promoting grid flexibility and development of renewable sources electricity generation distribution.

RTE intends to align the below Eligible Green Projects with the EU Taxonomy classification as per the latest published version¹⁴.

The Eligible Green Projects defined under this Framework are therefore evaluated and selected based on compliance with:

- the EU environmental objective « climate change mitigation » ;
- the relevant Technical Screening Criteria per EU Taxonomy classification, as detailed in the table below, and as updated from time to time in the Framework, in accordance with the future updates of the EU Taxonomy;
- the applicable “Do No Significant Harm” (DNSH) criteria to any of the other environmental objectives;
- the minimum (social) safeguards¹⁵.

For Bond issuances:

Eligible expenditures are defined in accordance with the EU Green Bond Standard¹⁶:

- Eligible expenditures of RTE’s Green Bonds will include capital expenditures and maintenance costs related to Eligible Green Projects.
- The proceeds of RTE’s Green Bonds will be exclusively and fully allocated to Eligible Green Projects.

¹¹ <https://www.lma.eu.com/documents-guidelines/documents/category/green--sustainable-finance>

¹² <https://www.icmagroup.org/sustainable-finance/the-principles-guidelines-and-handbooks/green-bond-principles-gbp/>

¹³ https://ec.europa.eu/finance/docs/level-2-measures/taxonomy-regulation-delegated-act-2021-2800-annex-1_en.pdf

¹⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/sustainable-finance-taxonomy-regulation-eu-2020-852/amending-and-supplementary-acts/implementing-and-delegated-acts_en

¹⁵ Set out in Article 18 of the Taxonomy Regulation

¹⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/banking-and-finance/sustainable-finance/eu-green-bond-standard_en

Eligible Green Projects categories are referring to the EU taxonomy activity “Transmission and distribution of electricity”.

As such eligible expenditures are aiming at:

- 1. developing the interconnected European system;**
- 2. developing the transmission and distribution infrastructure and equipment when:**
 - The average system grid emissions factor, calculated as the total annual emissions from power generation connected to the system, divided by the total annual net electricity production in that system, is below the threshold value of 100 gCO₂e/kWh measured on a life cycle basis in accordance with electricity generation criteria, over a rolling five-year period¹⁷;
- 3. developing infrastructure dedicated to creating direct connection or expanding existing direct connection to renewable energy generation facilities;**
- 4. optimizing the electricity network, which includes:**
 - the installation of equipment to increase the controllability and observability of the electricity system and to enable the development and integration of renewable energy sources, such as (i) sensors and measurement tools (including meteorological sensors for forecasting renewable production); and (ii) communication and control (including advanced software and control rooms, automation of substations or feeders, and voltage control capabilities to adapt to more decentralised renewable infeed).
 - Construction/installation and operation of equipment and infrastructure where the main objective is an increase of the generation or use of renewable electricity generation
 - Installation of transmission and distribution transformers¹⁸.

The eligibility criteria can be applied to ongoing projects with future commissioning. Some Eligible Green Projects may already be in operation, under construction and/or on the way to receive final approval.

All eligible projects are located in European Union countries and in the United Kingdom.

¹⁷ The rolling five-year period used in determining compliance with the thresholds is based on five consecutive historical years, including the year for which the most recent data are available

¹⁸ That comply with the Tier 2 (1 July 2021) requirements set out in Annex I to the Commission Regulation (EU) No 548/2014 and, for medium power transformers with highest voltage for equipment not exceeding 36 kV, with AAA0 level requirements on no-load losses set out in standard EN 50588-1

The extension of the definition of Eligible Green Projects categories will be subject of an amendment of the Framework.

3.2. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

RTE's Sustainable working group will review the evaluation and the selection of the projects. This working group will meet at least once a year. It will include representatives from Treasury, CSR, as well as operational departments when relevant.

The Sustainable working group will identify Eligible Green Projects as Use of Proceeds of the Green financing instruments.

It will verify the compliance of the selected pool of eligible projects with the eligibility criteria defined by this Framework on an annual basis until all outstanding green bonds have matured. Final decision on allocation is given by the CFO of RTE.

The working group will monitor the Eligible Green Projects portfolio during the life of the transactions and will manage any identified potential ESG risks associated with eligible projects. In particular, if any Eligible Green Projects exits RTE's portfolio or when the working group decides to remove an Eligible Green Project from the Eligible Green Projects portfolio if such project no longer meets the eligibility criteria, or if the committee identifies the occurrence of a material controversy associated with one Eligible Green Projects, or in case of projects postponement, cancelation, divestment or in case an Eligible Green Project has matured, the working group will use its best efforts to substitute such projects as soon as practical, once an appropriate Eligible Green Project for substitution has been identified by the Sustainable working group.

The Sustainable working group will manage any future update to this section 3 of the Framework. Such updates of the Framework will only apply to Green financings that are executed after the release of a new Second-Party Opinion. In particular, any update of the EU Taxonomy will be reviewed by the working group and the Framework may be accordingly updated. The Framework will be available on RTE's website¹⁹.

3.3. Management of Proceeds

The outstanding amount of proceeds of any Green financing will be managed on a portfolio basis by Treasury.

Treasury will establish a Sustainable Register, that will be reviewed annually by the Sustainable working group. It will contain information of the use of proceeds of each Green financing, including the amount of allocation per Eligible Green Projects Category.

For Bond issuances:

- RTE commits on a best effort basis to reach full allocation within the 24 months;

¹⁹ <https://www.rte-france.com/en>

- In case of refinancing, disbursements related to Eligible Green Projects made in the 3 calendar years prior to the issuance may be allocated to each Green Bond.

Treasury ensures that the proceeds raised by the aggregated amount of Green financings is lower than the outstanding amount of the Eligible Green Project portfolio. Pending full allocation, unallocated proceeds may temporarily be invested in accordance with RTE's investment guidelines in cash, deposits and money market SRI funds, at its discretion.

3.4. Reporting

RTE commits to publish annually a Green Financing Report, which will provide an allocation report and an impact report, as detailed below. The allocation and the impact reports will be provided until full allocation, and thereafter in case of material changes.

The full reporting document, (the "Green Financing Report") will be available on RTE's website²⁰.

3.4.1. Allocation report

RTE's allocation report will provide information on the following:

- The list of outstanding Green financing instruments;
- The total amount of proceeds allocated per Eligible Green Projects category;
- The share of financing and refinancing;
- Share of co-financing²¹;
- The amount and use of unallocated proceeds (if any);
- Examples of financed projects.

3.4.2. Impact report

RTE will provide an environmental impact report to support the allocation report described above.

Key environmental impact indicators per Eligible Green Projects Category will include estimated expected quantitative reporting metrics when feasible such as those presented in the following table.

²⁰ <https://www.rte-france.com/en>

²¹ The share of co-financing is defined as the share of the project financed by the green bond compared to the total cost of the project financed by other means

Eligible Green Project category	Impact Reporting Indicators	
	Output measure	Impact Measure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual output (GWh/y and % of increase) • Interconnections achieved (in GW) • Increase of interconnection capacity (%) • Capacity of renewable energy plant(s) to be served by transmission systems (MW) • Renewable energy power connected to the network (in MW and % of increase) • Energy savings achieved (MWh saved) 	Estimated annual avoided GHG emissions (in tCO2e)

The Impact Report will include information on the methodology and assumptions used to evaluate the Eligible Green Projects impacts and will disclose the use of external source.

The Impact Report may also include case studies on a selection of financed projects.

3.5. External Review

3.5.1. Second Party Opinion

A leading Second Party Provider, Vigeo Eiris, will issue a Second-Party Opinion on the Framework, to confirm the alignment of the Framework to the ICMA's Green Bond Principles edited in June 2021, to the Green Loan Principles 2021 published by the Loan Market Association (LMA), and, where applicable, to the EU Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act (June 2021).

The Second Party Opinion document will be made available on RTE's website²².

3.5.2. Post issuance external verification

An external verification on the Green Financing Report will be provided by an external auditor, on an annual basis and until the complete allocation of proceeds.

The external auditor will verify that the proceeds of the bonds are either allocated to Eligible Projects or invested in approved financial instruments and that the Eligible Projects benefiting from such allocation, comply with the criteria set out in this Framework. This will be published on RTE's website.

²² <https://www.rte-france.com/en>

Glossary

- **CRE:** France's independent energy market regulator whose main mission is to oversee the operation of the electricity and gas market and ensure there is no discrimination, cross-subsidy or anticompetitive practice
- **Electric losses:** Some electricity is lost during transmission between the point of generation and the point of delivery. The volume of the loss depends on the current, the distance and the network characteristics. These are referred to as electricity (or network or line) losses. Although they are invisible, electricity losses are real and unavoidable, but RTE works to reduce them
- **ENTSO-E** (European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity): association of 41 TSOs from 34 member countries, formed to promote important aspects of electricity policies such as safety, the rise of renewable energies and the electricity market
- **ERC-S Principle** (« *Eviter Réduire Compenser – Suivre* »): avoid-mitigate-offset-monitor principle - this sequence has for the purpose of avoiding damage to the environment, to reduce those which could not be sufficiently avoided and, if possible, to compensate for the notables that could neither be avoided nor sufficiently reduced
- **OASICE project:** this project studies how construction and operation of new undersea electricity cables affects the marine environment, using scallops as bio-indicators
- **SDDR** (« Schéma Décennal de Développement du Réseau »): RTE's ten-year network development plan
- **SF6:** sulphur hexafluoride, a powerful greenhouse gas with a warming potential that is 23,500 times stronger than CO₂. This synthetic gas is used in the electricity industry as an insulator, especially in metal-enclosed substations due to its compactness, and in overhead circuit-breakers. SF6 emissions may be caused by accidental leaks from facilities, the age of facilities, maintenance operations, or decommissioning of equipment at the end of its life
- **SPECIES Project:** this project, coordinated by France Énergies Marines, France's national institute for research on renewable marine energies for the energy transition, studies how undersea electricity cables laid on or buried in the seabed affect the benthos (the community of organisms that live on the seabed), looking particularly at the reef and reserve effect, and the effect of electromagnetic fields. Initial results published in 2020 show that the behaviour of young European lobsters is not affected by the magnetic field emitted by undersea cables.
- **S3REnR** (« Schéma régional de raccordement au réseau des énergies renouvelables »): Regional renewable energy connection plans
- **Transmission System Operators (TSOs):** TSOs are responsible for the reliable transmission of power from generation plants to regional or local electricity distribution operators

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