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## Preliminary geological survey for key Ore Mountain Tunnel begins

Správa železnic has started preparations for a preliminary geological survey on the route of the planned high-speed line from Prague to Dresden. Its results will determine the method of excavation of the Krušnohorský tunel (Ore Mountain Tunnel) and also measures for groundwater protection. The deepest borehole will measure 485 metres.

Preparations for a preliminary geological survey of the area between Chabařovice and the state border with Germany will begin before the end of the year. A strategically important cross-border Krušnohorský tunel, over 30 kilometres long, is planned for the section and will be key to improving rail connections between the two countries. It will serve both passenger and freight traffic.

*"In the first phase, the implementation documentation of the hydrogeological works project will be created, and then we will communicate with the relevant authorities and also with the owners of the affected lands. The first boreholes could be drilled before the start of the growing season, i.e. by the end of February next year. However, most of them will start in the autumn,"* says Jakub Bazgier, Director of High-Speed Lines Construction Management of Správa železnic.

According to the project, the experts plan to drill 16 boreholes. They will be at least 25 metres deep, with the deepest measuring 485 metres. These boreholes are essential to obtain information on the rock environment and hydrogeological conditions along the route. The data from the survey will help in deciding the most appropriate tunneling method and in determining the groundwater regime, which is crucial to ensure the safety and efficiency of construction and subsequent operation.

The survey will take place in the cadastral areas of Krásný Les in the Ore Mountains, Větrov u Krásného Lesa, Telnice, Stradov u Chabařovic, Chlumeč u Chabařovic and Chabařovice. These sites were chosen for their strategic location and specific geological conditions, which must be investigated in detail before construction work can begin.

The project and subsequent geological works will be carried out by the company GP Krušnohorský tunel.