

Press Release

PORR completes key section of major SuedLink project Breakthrough of ElbX tunnel crossing

Vienna/Wischhafen, 30.06.2026 - A central milestone has been reached in the major SuedLink project: On 22 June, the breakthrough was achieved in the construction of the ElbX electricity tunnel under the River Elbe on behalf of TenneT Germany and together with the project partners. The tunnelling works carried out by PORR connect Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony over a length of around 5.2 kilometres. The Elbe crossing is one of the key sections of the power line that will transport renewable energy from the north to the south of Germany.

“The tunnel construction under the Elbe is a significant and complex project that has repeatedly presented us with engineering challenges. Despite this, we’ve managed to achieve this milestone ahead of schedule. We’re proud to celebrate this success together with our project partners”, says PORR CEO Karl-Heinz Strauss. The tunnel was driven using mechanised tunnelling at depths of up to several dozen metres and under challenging geological and water-bearing conditions beneath the Elbe. The planning, logistics and execution demanded the maximum of everyone involved.

Over the final stretch of around 400 metres, the project team benefited in particular from favourable ground conditions, which enabled exceptional tunnelling performance. New bests were achieved on the construction site: The maximum daily advance was 32.6 metres or 25 segment rings, while the weekly record reached a whopping 158.7 metres.

Precise planning, close cooperation

“The successful breakthrough shows what is possible when modern tunnelling technology is combined with experience and a well-coordinated and motivated team”, says René Hallbauer, Tunnelling Project Manager at PORR. “This achievement is based on precise planning and close cooperation across all trades”.

Throughout the entire construction period, the advance was characterised by changeable and challenging ground conditions in the groundwater of the Elbe. The fact that the breakthrough was nevertheless achieved earlier than forecast underlines PORR’s high level of technical expertise in tunnelling as well as the close coordination between all project partners.

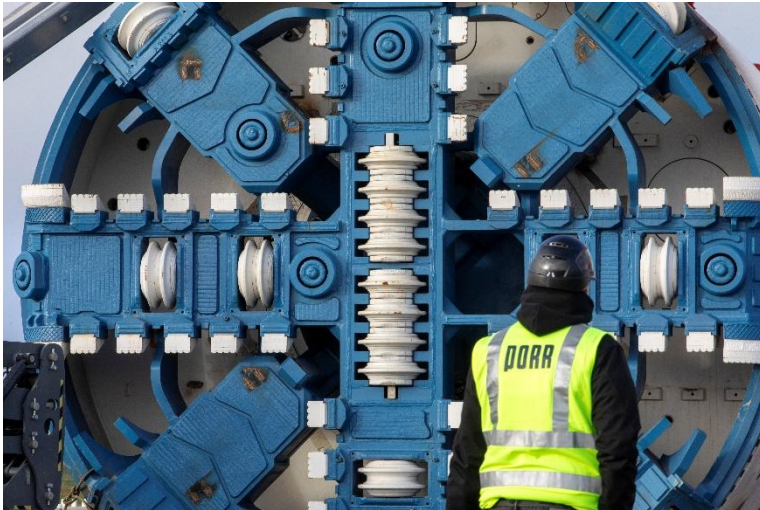
With the successful breakthrough now complete, the interior works and technical fit-out of the tunnel are set to begin. Once completed, the Elbe crossing will make a significant contribution to Germany’s stable and secure power supply and is a central building block for the success of the energy transition.

5.2 km tunnel under the Elbe

The “SuedLink ElbX crossing” project involves the construction of a tunnel around 5.2 km long beneath the River Elbe between Wewelsfleth in Schleswig-Holstein and Wischhafen in Lower Saxony. The tunnel forms part of the SuedLink power line and will make it possible in future to route high-capacity high-voltage direct current cables beneath the

river in order to transport wind power from northern Germany to the southern regions. This technically complex structure is considered a central component in Germany's energy transition.

Photo:



The breakthrough for the Elbe crossing tunnel was achieved on the Lower Saxony side of the Elbe © PORR

The press release including high-resolution images is available for download from the [PORR Newsroom](#).

About the PORR Group

Top performance driven by innovation - that's what PORR has embodied for over 155 years. With 21,000 employees and production output of around EUR 6.8 bn (business year 2025), PORR is one of the largest construction companies in Austria and among the top players in Europe. As a full-service provider, PORR offers every aspect of building construction, civil engineering and infrastructure construction along the entire value chain. The focus is on the home markets of Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Romania as well as selected project markets. The PORR share is listed in the prime market segment of the Vienna Stock Exchange. As one of Austria's oldest continuously traded stocks, it is also included in the Austrian benchmark index, the ATX, making it one of the 20 most liquid companies on the Austrian capital market (ISIN: AT0000609607).

More info: www.porr-group.com

About PORR GmbH & Co. KGaA

PORR GmbH & Co. KGaA in Germany is part of listed PORR AG and employs more than 3,000 people. As a technology leader with its own teams of experts, it designs and builds sophisticated, customised projects - in a safe and cost-efficient way. It leverages its extensive expertise to deliver tailored solutions. Its range of services extends from general planning through to turnkey handover. With its "Green and Lean" strategy, it is driving forward climate-neutral construction projects, smart technologies and partnership models for holistic collaboration. Using modern methods and technologies such as Building Information Modelling (BIM) and LEAN Management, it ensures that construction projects are realised economically and safely. PORR is active in Germany in the areas of railway construction, data centres, design & engineering, government services, healthcare, building construction, industrial construction, civil engineering, mineral raw materials, special civil engineering, tunnelling, environmental engineering and transport route engineering.



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