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Press release from AFRY

AFRY to contribute to modernisation of railway between Älmhult and Hässleholm, Sweden

The Swedish Transport Administration is currently modernising the overhead line system on the Southern Main Line in the counties of Skåne and Kronoberg. The railway line between Älmhult and Hässleholm is a busy double-track part of the Southern Main Line, frequented by freight trains, inter-city trains and commuter trains. To increase the reliability of the stretch, AFRY will produce construction documents for the renovation of its overhead line system.

The overhead line along the Älmhult-Hässleholm stretch is currently worn on both tracks, which brings increased risk for service disruptions. Therefore, the Swedish Transport Administration has decided to modernise the overhead line system on the stretch. Once completed – in 2026 – traffic will flow more reliably.

The 50-kilometre stretch is one of Sweden's busiest double-track stretches with a traffic of 170 trains per day, a number which is expected to rise in the coming years.

AFRY is now producing technical specifications and construction documents for renovations of the overhead line system for the construction contract. Once the building contract work is completed, AFRY will also produce management documents. In addition, the assignment includes building site monitoring within the areas of ground work, electricity/overhead lines, environment and signalling systems, plus measurement responsibility.

"We are proud and happy to be a part of the modernisation of the Southern Main Line. The new overhead line system will increase reliability and contribute to the development of a sustainable transport infrastructure in Sweden," says Johan Malmquist, Business Unit Manager Road & Rail at AFRY.

Sustainability is key in the project. For example, existing overhead lines will be refitted in new overhead line bridges wherever possible. At the railway depot in Älmhult, all overhead line bridges and depot lighting will be replaced, and new overhead lines mounted on the main tracks. For other tracks, existing overhead lines will be refitted in new overhead line bridges. The auxiliary power line will be kept and moved to the new posts. The assignment also includes converting the whole stretch from the existing booster transformer system to an auto transformer system.

The duration of AFRY's assignment is until 2028.

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