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High-speed line in South Moravia will connect to the existing corridor near Rakvice

Správa železnic has announced another contract related to the preparation of a network of high-speed lines (HSL, or VRT in Czech). The designers will propose an almost 11 km long extension of the planned HSL in South Moravia in the details of the documentation for zoning decision. New connection to the existing corridor near Rakvice will enable smoother train operation and will also be more capacious compared to the original exit near Šakvice.

Design work on the VRT Jižní Morava (HSL South Moravia) between Brno and Šakvice has so far shown that the connection method to the existing corridor proposed in the feasibility study will be restrictive for future operation. The Šakvice interchange was planned to be single track and trains would have to run at a reduced speed on it. The new connection at Rakvice will be off-grade, which allows the designers to design a double-track line with a speed of 230 km/h. This means that trains will not have to wait for an oncoming train. The relocation of the junction was recommended and approved by the Central Commission of the Ministry of Transport.

HSL will thus not connect to the existing corridor at Šakvice, but several kilometres further on at Rakvice. It is for this section that a detailed technical design will be created for the needs of the zoning procedure, which will be elaborated in the BIM standard. The new HSL will join the current line Brno – Břeclav south of the Rakvice stop. The grade separated connection will create a slight curve near the municipality because the corridor turns here and the exit will require less space than if it was designed in a straight direction. The curve will also reduce the cost of man-made structures, such as bridges, which may be shorter as a result.

Launch of the contract for the extension of the planned section of the VRT Jižní Morava will not affect the current schedule of works. Správa železnic will coordinate the preparation of both documents so that the design work will be carried out comprehensively for the entire Modřice – Rakvice section. The double-track line designed for a speed of 320 km/h will serve only passenger transport. The first trains should start running on it in 2030.