

PRAGUE, 21 February 2020

## **Ministry of Environment Extended Positive EIA Standpoint to Reconstruction of Nemanice – Ševětín Section**

Správa železnic successfully continues its intense preparations of another and final construction on Czech Rail Transit Corridor IV in the Nemanice – Ševětín section. Last October, it acquired a valid territorial decision and on 14 February 2020, the Ministry of Environment extended the EIA positive standpoint by five more years.

In the days to follow, Správa železnic will submit to the Ministry of Transport a project intent corresponding to the approved variant and is also finalizing tendering documentation to choose a supplier for elaborating documentation for a building permit and for carrying out the construction. *"We are entering now the final phase of this important construction preparation with an expected implementation launch in 2023"*, said Mr. Jiří Svoboda, Director General of Správa železnic.

During the construction, the whole section approximately 18 kilometres long should acquire a second track and get modernized for future speeds up to 200 kph including implementation of two new double-track tunnels, the Hosín Tunnel (3,120 m) and the Chotýčany Tunnel (4,775 m) which will thus become the longest tunnel in the Czech Republic.

Completing modernization of Corridor IV will result in important journey time savings. Before the implementation launch, it was possible to ride the route from Prague to České Budějovice in two hours and fifteen minutes. When the construction is completed, a classical train-set will be able to make the journey in one hour and forty minutes; a tilting train-set even in one hour and twenty-three minutes.