

ICELAND

Name of Association: Icelandic Tunnelling Society

Type of Structure: Non-profit, open association. Independent Society of corporate and ordinary members, founded 1974

Number of Members: 56 members, 16 corporate members.



ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES DURING 2023 AND TO DATE

- Three board meetings and one general meeting for 2023
- Annual general assembly took place in November with invited speakers
- The conference, NROCK2023, was held in Reykjavik together with the Icelandic Geotechnical Society. The number of Icelandic and foreign speakers was fourteen, with small working groups discussing special topics

CURRENT TUNNELLING ACTIVITIES

There is currently no tunnelling activity in Iceland.

FUTURE TUNNELLING ACTIVITIES

Fjardarheidi road tunnel (Point 1 on map below), a 13.5km long, 67m², road tunnel in east Iceland. The road tunnel will replace a mountain road between Seydisfjord village on the fjord side to the larger inland community of Egilsstadir. The existing mountain road peaks over 600m a.s.l. and can be dangerous to pass for several days in winter due to icy road conditions and sudden snowstorms. The tunnel will ease travel for locals and tourists alike. Pre-design is finished and

an Environmental Impact Assessment is ongoing. The tender design is ongoing with tendering planned for fall 2024 and a start in 2025.

The Icelandic Road administration is preparing and designing three tunnelling projects in the Reykjavik area. These are the Sæbraut tunnel (a 1km long cut and cover concrete tunnel), the Miklabraut tunnel (a 1.3km concrete tunnel or 2.4km long hard rock tunnel) and the Setbergshamar tunnel.

More road tunnels are in the planning

phases. The Icelandic government is preparing a plan for the construction of new road tunnels where 12+ new tunnels will be built in the next 30 years.

Hvammur 95MW hydro power plant

The National Power Company is preparing tender documents for the Hvammur 95MW hydro power plant, including excavation of a 300m long, 45m² cross-section access tunnel and 1.2km long, 180m² tailrace tunnel, to be excavated in two sections (gallery and bench – drill & blast).



Fjardarheiðargöng (tunnel). Iceland's longest road tunnel is under planning. Shown is the western entrance on this 13.3km long tunnel.