

## ANNEX

### Information on the Tender “Rail Baltica Main Line Construction in Latvia”

Currently in Latvia there is only a 1520 mm gauge railway track (built according to the Russian and the USSR standard), while the width of railway tracks in the majority of the European countries is 1435 mm. Consequently, the current Baltic railway network (and rolling stock) is not technically compatible with the railway network of Poland and Germany and further beyond.

**The objective of the *Rail Baltica* project** is provision of a 1435 mm/ European gauge mixed passenger/freight railway transport infrastructure in the three Baltic States with the total length of about 870 km to ensure smooth same gauge connection between the metropolises Tallinn - Riga - Kaunas - Warsaw – Berlin, and via possible further extension also to Finland (Finland is currently indirectly involved in the *Rail Baltica* project) extending the impact of the project also to the Nordic countries.



*Rail Baltica* is a new European standard 1435mm North Sea - Baltic (NSB) TEN-T Core Network Corridor element aimed at integrating the Baltic countries Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into a unified European rail network, receiving up to 85% co-financing under the

Connecting Europe Facility. It is also part of the core network's Baltic - Adriatic corridor and has been identified as a TEN-T priority project of common European interest.

Implementation of the *Rail Baltica* project will facilitate integration of the transport infrastructure system of the Baltic States into the transport network of the European Union, as well as facilitate sustainable and diversified development of the national economy and competitiveness.

Improving freight and passenger transport possibilities in the northern-southern direction, *Rail Baltica* is expected to foster the emergence of new development centres, thus improving economic cohesion. Speed of traffic, lower costs and intermodality both in the field of passenger and freight transportation will improve convenience of traffic and mobility of residents providing an opportunity to choose the environmentally most friendly mode of transport while at the same time ensuring comfort and enhanced safety in reaching the planned destination. Whereas, in the area of freight transport, connections between various kinds of transport will improve freight flow and coordination from various regions.

**The scope of Works for the *Rail Baltica* mainline infrastructure construction in the rural territory of the Republic of Latvia** will include but not limited to construction of substructure (e.g., embankment), superstructure (ballast, rails, sleepers), structures (e.g., bridges, viaducts, overpasses etc.), roads (access and maintenance roads, municipality and state roads), utilities, shift of networks (including gas pipeline) etc. The scope of works included in the contract contains approx. 220km of newly built, double track railway infrastructure with 250 km/h design speed and 25t axle load. The scope also contains several large engineering structures, including combined motorway/railway bridge across the river Daugava and 1.4 km long viaduct across the Gauja valley. ENE (energy subsystem deployment) and CCS (control - command and signalling) subsystems are not within the scope of this procurement, as well as the mainline cross border sections (10-15 km in the area of border with the Republics of Lithuania and Estonia) as well as sections within Riga City area (approx. 20 km).

The first priority is construction of the section from Airport RIX to the Lithuanian border. The second priority is construction of the section over the Daugava River (near Salaspils) and connection to the Airport RIX - Lithuanian border section. The final construction section is connection from the Latvian/Estonian border to the Daugava River crossing.

A webinar providing general tender information to the industry was held on 8 September 2021. Presentation of the webinar as well as answers to the raised questions are published and attainable here:

<https://edzl.lv/iepirkumi/aktualie-iepirkumi/rail-baltica-pamattrases-buvdarbi-latvija-apspriede>

On 7 December 2021 at 15:00 (Riga time) a more dedicated webinar will be held to inform the interested suppliers and answer their questions. The interested suppliers should apply to the webinar by sending an e-mail to [mlconstruction@edzl.lv](mailto:mlconstruction@edzl.lv) by 7 December 2021, 10:00 (Riga time).