

Media Release

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Lukmanier Gallery: Agreement between KVR and Canton Graubünden

The existing gallery on the Lukmanier Pass road along the Santa Maria reservoir of Kraftwerke Vorderrhein AG (KVR) is to be extended by 320 meters. This will permanently protect the section of road from avalanches. KVR has agreed with the canton of Graubünden on a split of costs.

During the construction of the Santa Maria dam at the end of the 1950s, the Lukmanier Pass road in the area of the reservoir was relocated from the bottom of the valley to the side of the valley. The concession obligated the KVR to build full replacement structures. A winter-proof pass road is important for both the KVR and the canton. KVR wants to reach its dams in this area also in winter. The canton is interested in an open connection between the Surselva and the canton of Ticino, if possible all year round.

The agreement reached at that time was specified in various ways in the following years. Nevertheless, it was not clear until now what proportion of the costs of winter-proof extensions and new constructions the KVR has to bear according to the concession. The partners have now clarified this question by mutual consent and settled it conclusively in a new agreement. The extension and new construction of the "Scopi 3" avalanche gallery will cost around CHF 8 million. The canton of Graubünden will bear 35 percent of the cost and KVR 65 percent. The KVR thus fulfils all the conditions and is released from its concession obligations with regard to the Lukmanier Pass road until the regular end of the concession in 2048.

Kraftwerke Vorderrhein AG (KVR), based in Disentis/Mustér (GR), is a co-owned plant of the Canton of Graubünden, the concessionary municipalities and Axpo. The share capital is divided as follows: 81.5 percent Axpo, 10 percent Canton Graubünden and 8.5 percent concessionary municipalities.

Additional information

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About Axpo: Axpo is Switzerland's largest producer of renewable energy and an international leader in energy trading and the marketing of solar and wind power. 5000 employees combine experience and expertise with a passion for innovation. Axpo develops innovative energy solutions for its customers based on state-of-the-art technologies in 40 countries in Europe, USA and Asia. We open up perspectives and generate new impulses for a life full of energy.