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Requirements for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Swedish Transport Administration (Trafikverket) sets out requirements for suppliers in investment and maintenance projects to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from the projected infrastructure. The requirements apply to greenhouse gas emissions from construction, materials used and future maintenance.

The requirements include reducing the emissions from investment projects costing over 50 million SEK and including a planning stage. The Swedish Transport Administration has set greenhouse gas constraints for the procurement of several railway products, like concrete sleepers and rails. In addition, we set greenhouse gas constraints on reinforcement steel, concrete, cement, structural steel, energy sources and vehicles in investment projects costing less than 50 million SEK, investment projects without a planning stage and in all maintenance contracts. We are gradually introducing requirements for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for other materials and processes.

Suppliers can be awarded a premium for good solutions (greater reduction of greenhouse gas emissions than required). To stimulate further reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions, economic incentives in the form of a bonus may be stipulated in the contracts.

The Infrastructure Shall Be Climate Neutral by 2040

Our long-term goal is for the infrastructure to be climate neutral no later than 2040.

We are gradually reaching our sub-goals through procurement requirements on consultants, entrepreneurs and material suppliers.

Sub-goals for reduction of greenhouse gases:

2020 – 15 percent reduction

2025 – 30 percent reduction

2030 – 60 percent reduction, fossil-free fuel or electric drive in all projects

2035 – 80 percent reduction

Comparison year is 2015 and is defined by the tool Klimatkalkyl.

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Creates Room for Innovative Solutions

The Swedish Transport Administration has for a long time set out greenhouse gas constraints for individual projects. Since the requirements set a goal and not a path, room for innovative solutions to reach that goal is created. There are examples of creative solutions in projects where requirements for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions have been set. In the project The Nordic Link a vent tower was built in wood instead of glass, and in The West Link shafts are planned to be built instead of an extra tunnel for service and rescues.

The greenhouse gas constraints have been set based on a research project carried out in collaboration with the infrastructure industry.

The Klimatkalkyl Tool

[The Klimatkalkyl](#) tool is used for calculation of greenhouse gas emissions. Calculating greenhouse gas emissions is a prerequisite for being able to set requirements and constraints leading to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The calculation of greenhouse gas emissions for the finished facility, i.e. the climate declaration, should show what really made a difference. The tool Klimatkalkyl is in Swedish.

Verification

Verification for the climate performance of the materials used is demanded in cases where supplier-specific emission factors (LCA-data) for material is used in Klimatkalkyl or to verify that the requirements on materials have been met. The verification, usually an environmental product declaration (EPD), must be approved by the Swedish Transport Administration.

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