

Press release

Copenhagen, 3 November 2020

Verdict in the matter of Scandlines' complaint over Fehmarn-approval

With today's verdict, the German Federal Administrative Court has declared the plan approval of the Fehmarn tunnel as lawful.

In late September, the legal proceedings of Scandlines' complaint took place at the Federal Administrative Court in Leipzig. Today the court has declared the approval as lawful.

"We are relieved that the extensive and bureaucratic process has now ended. We still have to wait about five months for the written verdict, but must say that we look forward to getting back to everyday life," says Søren Poulsgaard Jensen.

Without knowing the exact wording of the written verdict, Scandlines is particularly pleased that the court has considered safety at sea and given the Scandlines ferries priority over the barges transporting mud from the construction site. Furthermore, Scandlines is pleased that Femern A/S – during the construction period – can shut off a much smaller area of the Fehmarn Belt as planned.

Scandlines is also pleased that Femern A/S must coordinate all initiatives with the German plan authorities, in order to secure that all planning and construction is carried out according to German law and order.

"That said, the planned access to our ferries has still not been solved in a satisfactory manner. The current plans have only been marginally adjusted and still result in a massive degrading, compared to the existing access – and the access clearly favours our state owned tunnel competitor. We will continue to fight for equal access roads to tunnel and ferries – both locally and in the EU. We cannot accept that Femern A/S can design a degraded access to our harbour," says Søren Poulsgaard Jensen.

Scandlines will continue to be a crucial part of the European infrastructure, both during the construction of the tunnel and after the opening of the Fehmarn tunnel.

About Scandlines

Scandlines stands as a symbol of a historical and close cooperation between Denmark and Germany. Scandlines operates two ferry routes with high capacity and frequency as well as with a green vision for the future.

The core business is to provide an efficient and reliable transport service for both passengers and freight customers. The main focus for all activities in Scandlines is to create value for our customers on board the ferries as well as in our shops.

With more than 41,500 departures on 8 ferries, in 2019 Scandlines transported 7.2 million passengers, 1.7 million cars and around 0.7 million freight units on the routes Puttgarden-Rødby and Rostock-Gedser.

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