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# The Coastal Highway Route E39 in Norway

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# The Coastal Highway Route E39



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Focus on: Extreme fjord crossings along the Route E39



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## Norway in 10 second





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The worlds longest....

Lærdal tunnel (24,5 km)

Nordhordland bridge (1246 m end-anchored floating bridge)



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## The current Route E39



- E39 Kristiansand–Trondheim  
nearly 1100 km, including  
7 ferry connections
- E39 ferry connection  
Kristiansand–Hirtshals
- Aalborg: The E39 joins the  
E45 which continues to  
Italy
- Varied road standard

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## An improved and ferry free E39

- **Open road 24/7**  
**7 ferry connections** removed
- Travel time reduced from 21 hours to **11 hours**
- **New solutions** and new competence
  - Similar bridge solutions have never been built before
- **National Transport Plan 2018 – 2029**
  - Ambition confirmed
  - Estimated cost of 45 billion USD (340 billion NOK)





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## The National Transport Plan (NTP) 2018 – 2029

- Presented in April 2017
- The goal is maintained: The E39 is to become a continuous route without ferries
- June 2017: Adopted by the Parliament (Storting)
- Strong focus on cost cutting
  - Reductions possible as a result of technological development



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## Challenging fjord crossings

| Fiord           | Length (km) | Depth (m) |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------|
| Halsafjorden    | 2           | 5–600     |
| Julsundet       | 1.6         | 5–600     |
| Romsdalsfjorden | 13          | 330       |
| Sulafjorden     | 3.8         | 500       |
| Vartdalsfjorden | 2.1         | 600       |
| Nordfjorden     | 1.4         | 500       |
| Sognefjorden    | 3.7         | 1250      |
| Bjørnafjorden   | 5           | 550       |
| Langenuen       | 1.3         | 500       |
| Boknafjorden    | 27          | 390       |

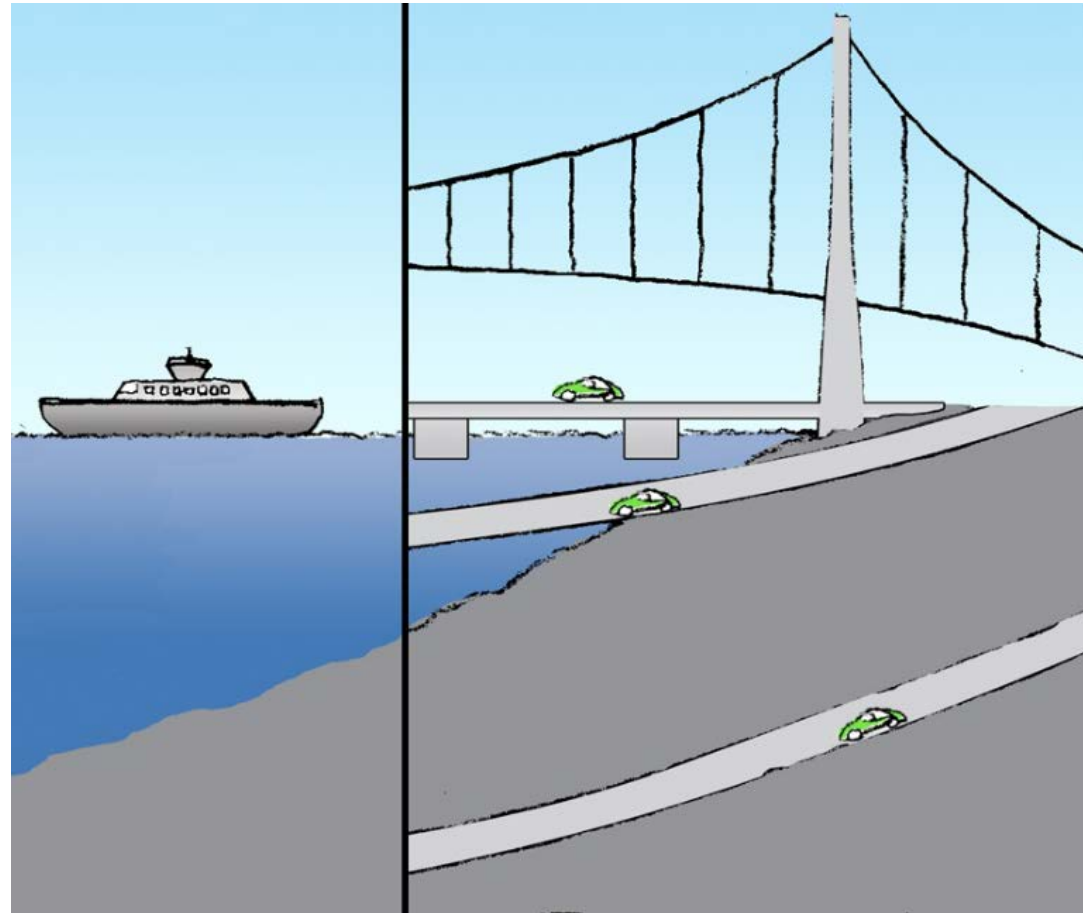


★ = subsea tunnel



## Alternative solutions for the large fjord crossings

- Suspension bridge
- Floating bridge (combined with suspension/cable-stayed bridges)
- Submerged floating tube bridge (floating tunnel)
- Immersed tunnel/  
subsea rock tunnel

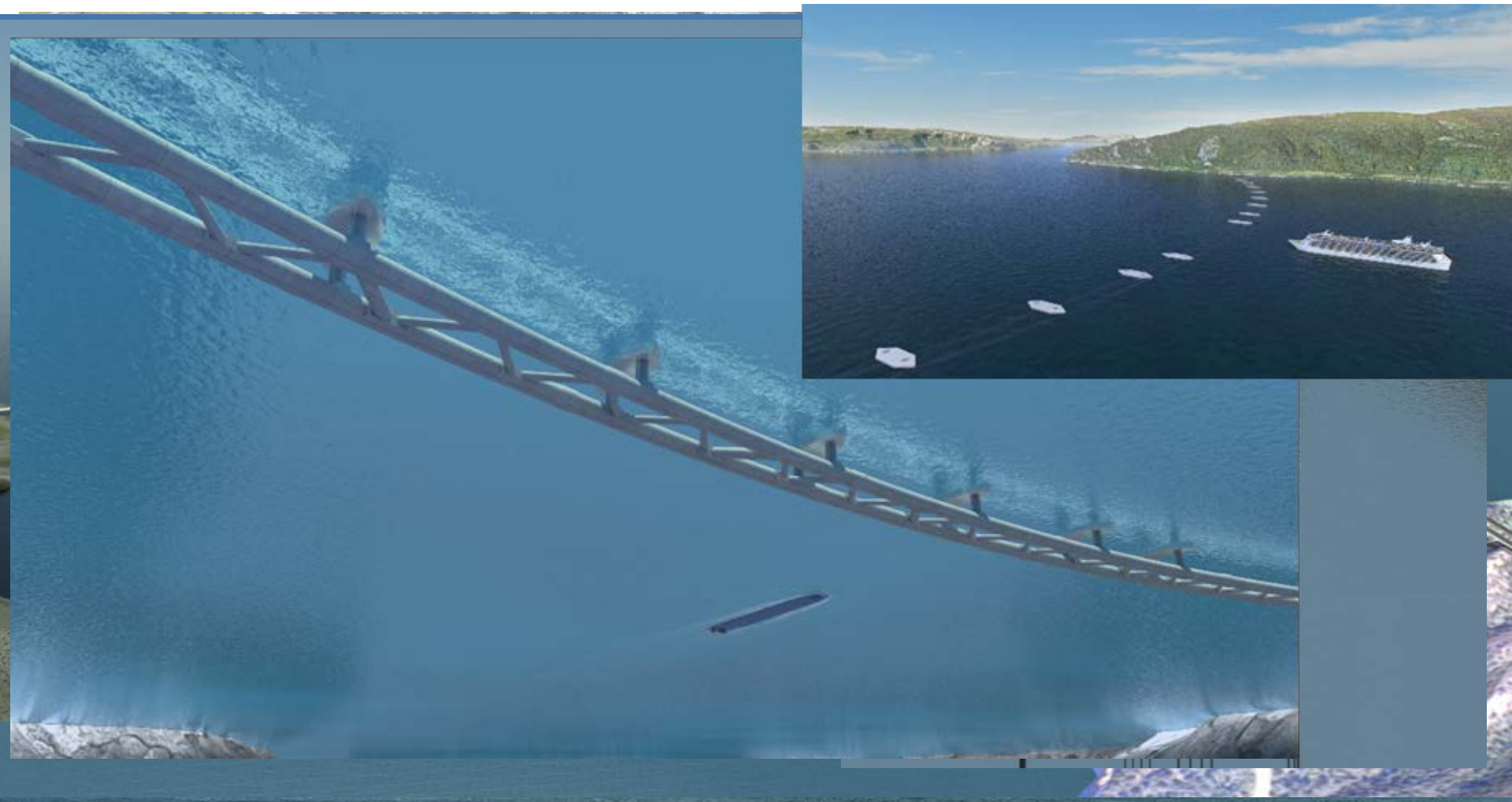


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Conceptual design – across the Sognefjord



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## Sub Sea Rock Tunnel

Preferred solution on the following crossings (known technology, but stretched):

- Boknafjorden (opening for traffic in 2025 or 2026)
- Romsdalsfjorden





## Single-span Suspension bridge

Preferred solution on the following crossings (proven technology):

- Julsundet
- Nordfjord
- Langenuen

Considered a viable option on the following crossings (new technology):

- Halsafjord
- Vartdalsfjord
- Sulafjord\*
- Sognefjord\*

\*span of approx. 3 km or wider





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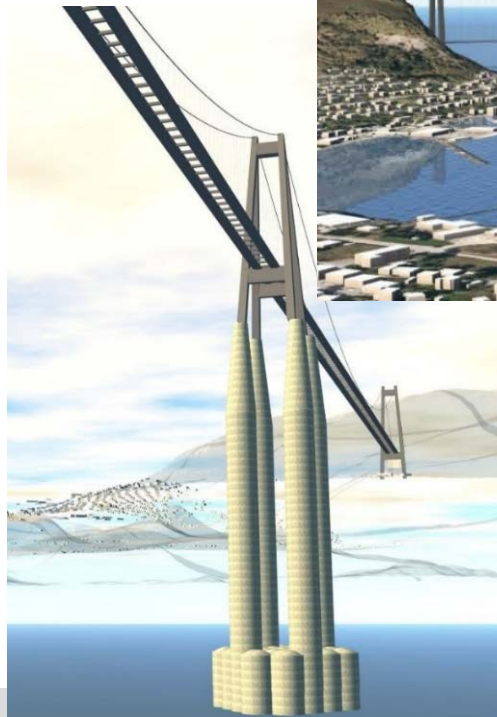


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## Multi-span Suspension bridge with fixed towers

Considered a viable  
option on the following  
crossing:

- Sulafjorden



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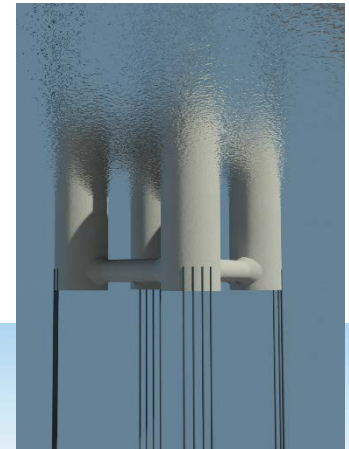


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## Multi-span Suspension bridge with floating towers

Considered a viable option on the following crossings:

- Halsafjord
- Vartdalsfjord
- Sulafjord



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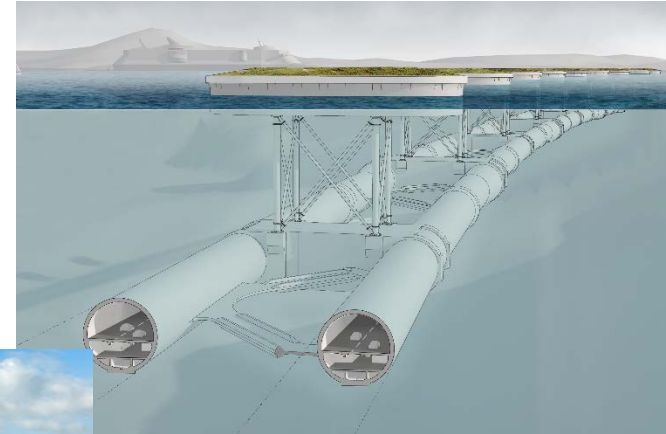


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## Submerged Floating Tube Bridge

Considered a viable option on the following crossings:

- Sulafjorden
- Sognefjorden





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## End Anchored Floating Bridge

Considered a viable option  
on the following crossings:

- Halsafjorden
- Bjørnafjorden





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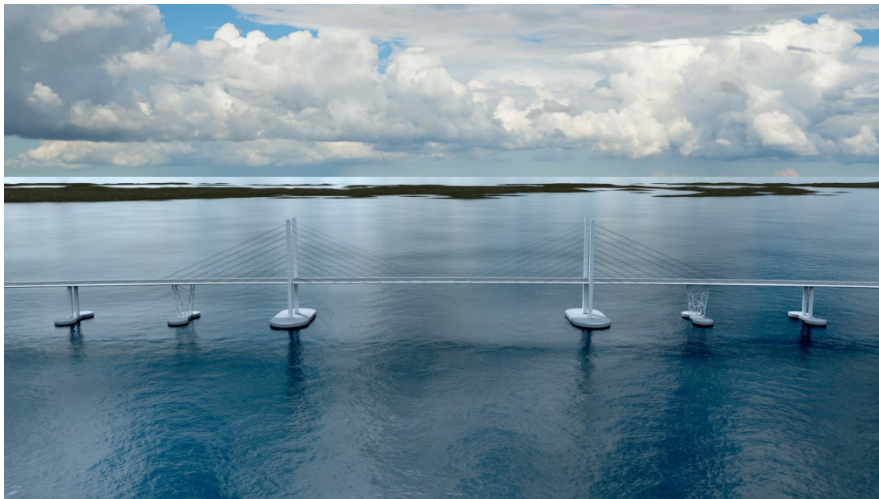


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## Side Anchored Floating bridge

Considered a viable option on the following crossings:

- Halsafjorden
- Bjørnafjorden



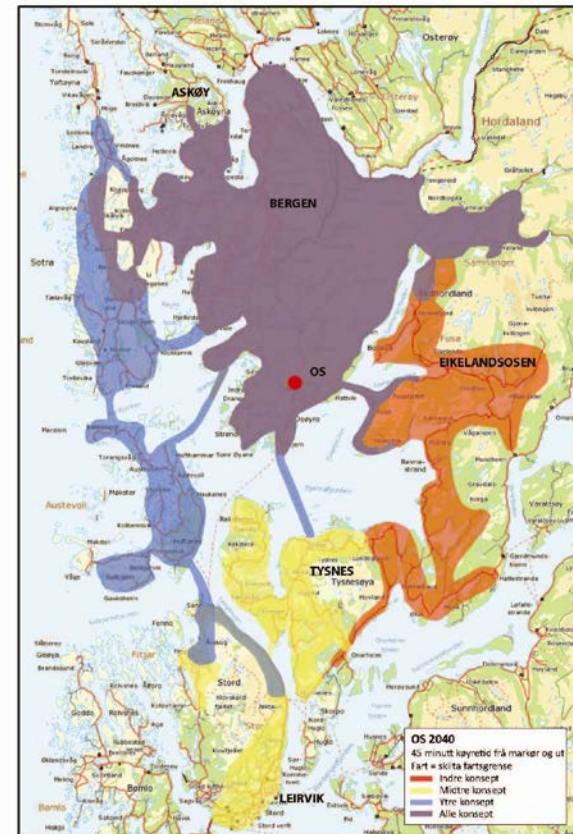
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## Impact on Society

- Large positiv Socio-Ecomonic impact
- Big influencer of Regional Development
- Redefining housing and labour markets along the Route through increased mobility for users
- Will be a “Gamechanger”



# The Coastal Highway Route E39



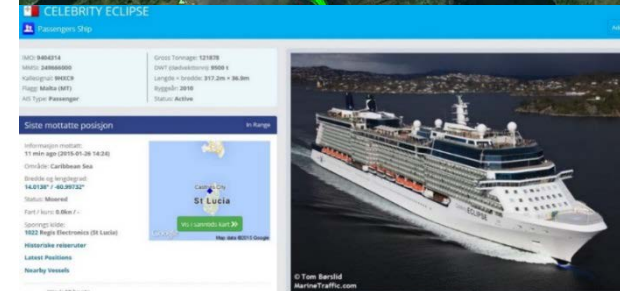
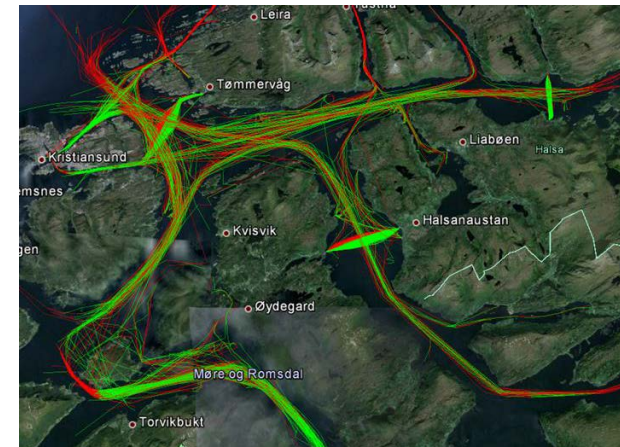
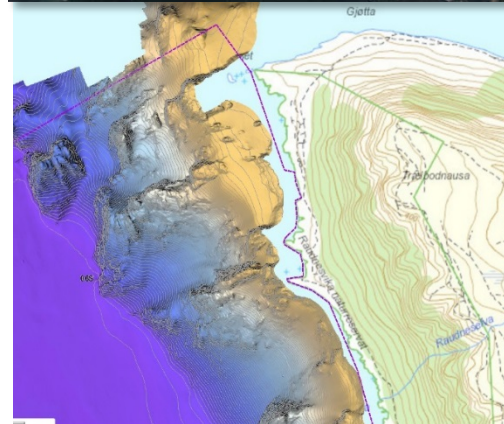
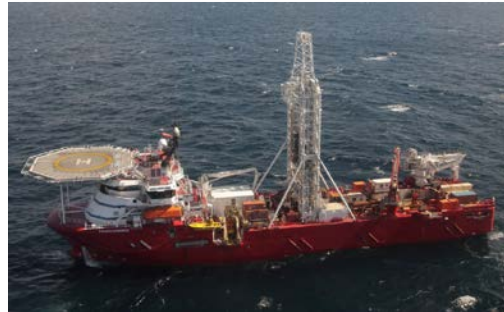
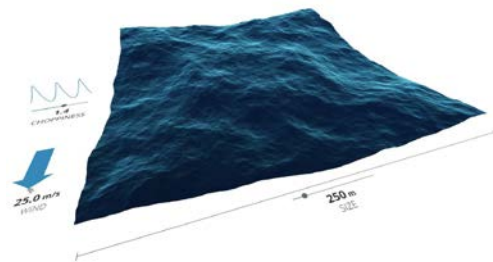
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## On-going investigations

Environmental data

Ground assessment

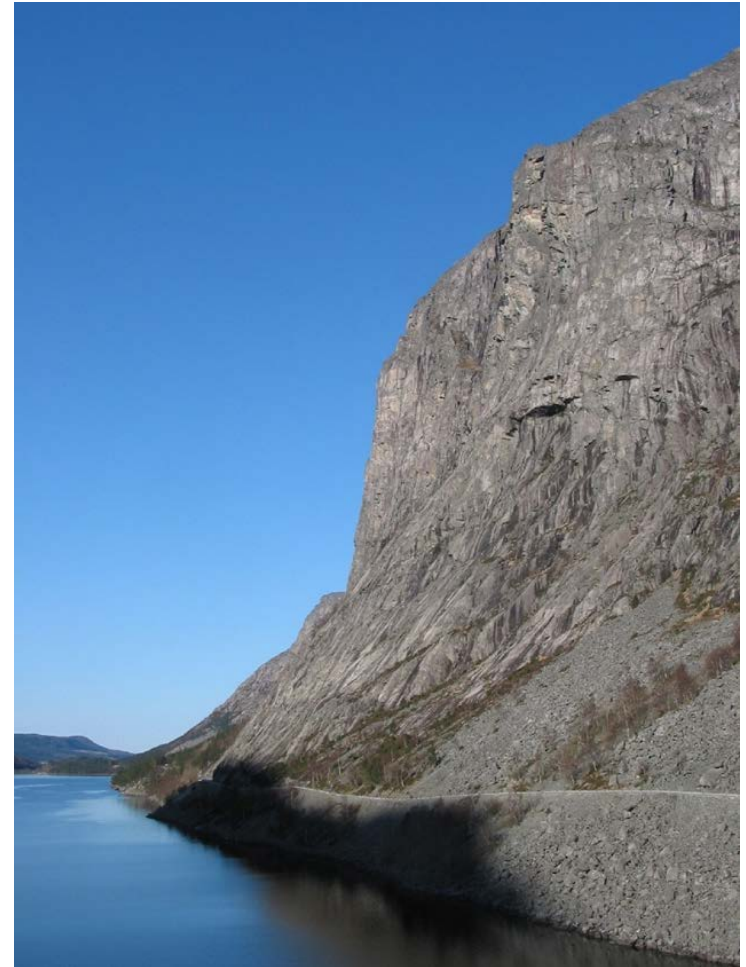
Risk of ship collision





## Environment

- Major construction-related impact in a vulnerable coastal landscape
- Emissions of greenhouse gases are to be cut
  - Emissions over a 40-year period will be almost the same as for today's E39 – despite strong increase in traffic volumes
- Underlying parameters are constantly changing; new energy sources exploited
  - Electricity, biofuels and hydrogen
  - Calculations are based on today's vehicles, ferries etc.





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## Summary

- Technologically feasible
- Feasible from a planning perspective
- Large positive Socio-Economic impact
- Financially challenging



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Thanks for your kind attention!



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