


A daily e-mail bulletin of Czech wit & wisdom. For your free subscription, write to subscribe@fsfinalword.com

Canals lined with gold



One reason given yesterday by Transport Minister Zdeněk Žák for the removal of Jan Skalický as head of the ŘVC waterways agency was the bloated price of a feasibility study. "We caught him trying to pay a Kč 2m invoice for a study for which we have an official valuation showing that under no circumstances could it be worth more than Kč 50,000," he told [Czech TV](#). It's small peanuts, really, but in percentage terms that Kč 2m contract would be a nice haul for someone! A 97.5% profit. Another reason for Skalický's removal, Žák said, are disagreements over plans for a Kč 300bn Danube-Oder-Elbe canal. By sheer coincidence, or perhaps not, ŘVC estimates the cost of the feasibility study at Kč 200m. At the same profit margin of 97.5%, that would put the real value of such a study at Kč 5m, which sounds about right. With Skalický soon gone, we can now expect a fair tender for a study at this price, right Minister Žák?

Read this later today in [Czech](#)  Find us on Facebook

WHO WILL WIN THE EARLY PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS?
WHAT WILL IT MEAN FOR YOU AND YOUR BUSINESS?
SHARE YOUR VIEWS IN OUR LATEST POLL.

TO MAKE YOUR
OPINION COUNT
CLICK HERE

