



T2D TORRENS TO DARLINGTON

Cut and cover

Our tunnel boring machines (TBMs) will be assembled and launched from 'cut and cover' areas. These are large open trenches cut deep enough so that the TBMs can be launched at the required gradient, and eventually form part of the motorway.

1 Trenches cut

The trenches will be about 120m long, 50m wide and 25m deep, and reinforced with retaining walls to ensure stability.

2 TBMs assembled

The TBMs will be assembled in the 'cut' trench and will then begin excavating the tunnels.

3 Trenches covered

Once the TBMs have tunnelled far enough, the structure that will 'cover' the 'cut' trench will be built using concrete slabs, and then covered with soil.

4 New space

Some of the covered area will form the new motorway or surface roads, or be used for tunnel operations supporting infrastructure or community space.