



NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE ICELANDIC POLICE

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD OF THE ICELANDIC CIVIL PROTECTION

Date: 03.03.2015 **Time:** 09:30 **Location:** Crisis Coordination Centre, Skogarhlid.

Regarding: Volcanic activity in the Bardarbunga system.

Attending: Scientists from Icelandic Met Office and the Institute of Earth Sciences University of Iceland along with representatives from the Icelandic Civil Protection, The Environmental Agency of Iceland and The Directorate of Health.

Main points

- Volcanic eruption in Holuhraun
- Air quality

Notes

Conclusion of the meeting:

- Scientists are now analysing data and examining the eruption site to reassess the hazard assessment. It was decided to use this week for that assignment. The Scientific Advisory Board will meet again next Tuesday, 10th of March, based on that meeting it will be decided if the hazard assessment and the restricted area will be changed.

Status:

- The volcanic eruption in Holuhraun came to an end on Friday 27th of March.
- Seismic activity in Bárðarbunga continues to diminish. Only one earthquake stronger than M2,0 was measured since last Saturday. It was M2.3 yesterday at 04:08. In total around 60 earthquakes were detected around the caldera since Saturday.
- Around 120 earthquakes were detected in the dyke during the same period. The strongest one was measured M1.6 on Sunday at 02:10. A slightly more activity is now measured in the dyke, which is most likely due to decreased pressure.
- Three earthquakes were detected around Tungnafellsjökul glacier, about 30 earthquakes around Herðubreið and 2 in Grímsfjall. All of these earthquakes were weaker than M2.0.
- Insubstantial tectonic movements are now detected in the area.

Air quality:

- Gas contamination is still being detected over and around the lava field. Gas contamination is still expected in the vicinity of the eruption site. Gas emission will be monitored closely and forecasts issued if needed.
- **From the Icelandic Met Office:** The Aviation Colour Code for Bárðarbunga is now yellow.
- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th of March 2015.