

July 10, 2024

Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors 2nd Floor, 803 Manning Road N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E 7M8

Alex Frotten, P.Eng. Construction Engineer – Delivery Services Division (Southern Region)

Dear Mr. Frotten:

CON0022161 Southern Region GRMP Instrumentation Monitoring Site S075; H540:02, km 5.720 Pekisko Creek Slides Section C – 2024 Spring Readings

1 **GENERAL**

Three slope inclinometers (SIs) (SI17-01 through SI17-03) and three vibrating wire piezometers (VWPs) (VW17-01, VW17-02, and VW17-04B) were read at the S075 site in Southern Region on May 8, 2024, by Mr. Bradley Lawson, E.I.T., of Klohn Crippen Berger Ltd. (KCB). These instruments were read as part of the Southern Region Geohazard Risk Management Program (GRMP). The site is located approximately 5.7 km east of the Hwy 22:10 intersection and approximately 26.8 km west of the intersection with Hwy 2:10. The approximate site coordinates are 5590915 N, 701866 E (UTM Zone 11, NAD 83), and the legal land description for the site is NW 12-17-02-W5. A site plan is presented in Figure 1.

The geohazard at the S075 site consists of two adjacent landslides located approximately 30 m apart, denoted as Site A and B, along the west (southbound) lane of Hwy 540:02. Previously, this site was included with a riverbank erosion site located approximately 1.1 km southwest along Hwy 520:02. In early-2022, KCB and AT separated the riverbank erosion and landslide sites, with the landslide site (Site A and B) becoming the S075 site and riverbank erosion site retaining the original S051 site number.

In July 2017, KCB conducted a geotechnical site investigation, which included installing instruments, at the S075 site to support design and construction work. Drilling was completed by Mayfield Drilling and Environmental Service Ltd. The encountered stratigraphy was as follows: silt, overlying clay till, and overlying bedrock (siltstone).

1.1 Instrumentation

Instrumentation installation details are tabulated in Table 1.1. Instrument locations are shown in Figure 1.

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In July 2017, KCB installed three SIs (SI17-01 through -03) and four VWPs (VW17-01, VW17-02, and VW17-04A/B) to monitor the depth of movement and groundwater conditions, respectively. Instrumentation installed in BH17-01 (SI17-01 and VW17-01) and BH17-02 (SI17-02 and VW17-02) are located at the crest and toe of the slide at Site B, respectively. Instrumentation installed in BH17-03 (SI17-03) and BH17-04 (SI17-04 and VW17-04A/B) are installed at the crest and within the slide mass at Site A, respectively. SI17-04 and VW17-04A are not inoperable. The instruments are protected by above-ground casing protectors.

In the spring of 2019, KCB was unable to lower the SI probe past an approximate depth of 4 m below ground surface in SI17-04. In July 2019, KCB inspected the inside of the SI casing with a GeoVISION downhole camera. During the camera inspection, a portion of the SI casing near ground surface was observed to be loose and separated from the lower SI casing. The stick-up of the SI was also measured, and it had increased approximately 0.25 m since installation in July 2017, indicating the ground around the instrument may have heaved and then settled, separating the SI casing and rendering the instrument inoperable. There is also water inside the SI casing, approximately 0.5 m above ground surface. It is assumed that VW17-04A is inoperable due to the cable being impacted by the SI casing separation.

KCB changed the SI reading equipment in May 2022 after the previous equipment became inoperable. Currently, KCB is reading the SIs with a metric RST Digital MEMS Inclinometer System.

The VWPs were read using an RST VWP readout box.

Instrument ID	Instrument Type	UTM Coo	rdinates ¹		Ground			Condition ^{3,4}	
		Northing	Easting	Date Installed	Surface Elevation (m)	Stick Up (m)	Depth (mbgs ²)		
SI17-01	SI	5590967	701872	Jul. 13, 2017	1221.9	0.6	19.2	Operable	
SI17-02	SI	5590934 701820		Jul. 17, 2017	1199.0	0.6	17.9	Operable	
SI17-03	SI	5590801	701834	Jul. 24, 2017	1216.0	0.8	24.7	Operable	
SI17-04	SI	5590861	701884	Jul. 24, 2017	1208.3	1.0	26.0	Inoperable	
VW17-01	VWP	5590967	701872	Jul. 13, 2017	1221.9	N/A	14.4	Operable	
VW17-02	VWP	5590934	701820	Jul. 17, 2017	1199.0	N/A	14.0	Operable	
VW17-04A	VWP	5590861	701844	Jul. 19, 2017	1208.3	N/A	25.0	Inoperable	
VW17-04B	VWP	5590861	701844	Jul. 19, 2017	1208.3	N/A	7.5	Operable	

Table 1.1 Instrumentation Installation Details

Notes:

¹ Instrument locations were taken with a handheld GPS during installation and have a horizontal accuracy of +/- 5 m.

² Meters below ground surface (mbgs). Bottom casing depth for SIs and tip depth for piezometers.

³ VW17-02 cable leads were cut and re-stripped during the May 2022 readings and is now operable.

⁴ VW17-04A is inoperable due to a joint becoming separated at approximately 4 m below ground surface.

2 INTERPRETATION

2.1 General

For the SIs, the cumulative displacement, incrementation displacement, and displacement-time data was plotted in the A-direction (i.e., in the direction of the A0-grooves) and, where applicable, the X-direction (i.e., the direction of maximum movement obtained at a skew angle from the A0-grooves). SI17-03 has a skew angle of 300°, measured clockwise from the A0-grooves.

For the VWPs, the recorded porewater pressures were converted to an equivalent water/piezometric elevation and plotted relative to ground surface and each instrument's tip elevation.

Monthly precipitation data is also plotted with the piezometer data. The data was obtained from the Alberta Climate Information Service (ACIS) database, referencing legal subdivision TWP017-02-W5.

The SI and piezometer data plots are included in Appendix I, and a summary of the SI and piezometer data is provided in Table 2.1 and Table 2.2, respectively.

2.2 Zones of Movement

2.2.1 Site A

Movement has been recorded in SI17-03 from an approximate depth of 15 m to 20 m below ground surface (approximately El. 1201 m to El. 1196 m). SI17-03 is located at the crest of the slope outside of the identified slide mass.

Before becoming inoperable in 2019, distributed movement had been recorded in SI17-04 from ground surface to an approximate depth of 8 m below ground surface (approximately El. 1200 m) and discrete movement at an approximate depth of 14 m to 22 m below ground surface. SI17-04 is located midslope within the slide mass.

Some of the movement recorded in SI17-03 and SI17-04 could be related to casing buckling or settlement due to poor grouting, as discussed below.

2.2.2 Site B

Movement has been recorded in SI17-01 from an approximate depth of 6 m to 12 m below ground surface (approximately El. 1211 m to El. 1216 m). SI17-01 is located near the crest of the slide.

Movement has been recorded in SI17-02 from an approximate depth of 4 m to 5 m and 8 m to 11 m below ground surface (approximately El. 1194 m to El. 1195 m and El. 1188 m to 1191 m). SI17-02 is located near the toe of the slide.



Table 2.1Slope Inclinometer Reading Summary

Instrument ID	Date				Ground			Movement (mm)				Rate of Movement (mm/year)		
	Initialized (Re-initialized) ³ Previous Maximum Cumulative Movement Recorded	Previous Maximum	Previous	Most Recent	Surface	Depth of Movement	Direction of Movement.	Maximum Cumulative			Incremental Since	Previous	Most	Change from
		Reading	Reading	Elevation (m)	(mbgs ¹)	Skew Angle ²	Before Re- Initialization	After Re- Initialization	Total	Previous Maximum Cumulative	Maximum	Recent Reading	Previous Reading	
SI17-01	Aug. 29, 2017 (Sep. 27, 2017)	June 13, 2023	June 12, 2023	May 8, 2024	1221.9	6.0 - 13.0	A-Direction	1.0	5.3	6.3	0.6	9.7	0.7	-0.1
SI17-02 Au	Aug. 29, 2017 June 13	luna 12, 2022	June 12, 2022	3 May 8, 2024	1199.0	4.0 - 5.0	5.0 A-Direction	N/A	5.6	5.6	2.7	1.3	3.0	2.0
		Julie 13, 2023	June 12, 2025			8.0 - 11.0		N/A	4.4	4.4	1.9	3.4	2.1	2.0
SI17-03	Aug. 29, 2017 (Apr. 24, 2018)	May 2, 2022	June 12, 2023	May 8, 2024	1216.0	14.0 - 22.0	X-Direction, 300°	49.7	6.0	55.7	2.9	86.9	6.2	8.6

Notes:

¹ Meters below ground surface (mbgs).

² Skew angle of X-direction measured clockwise from the A-direction.

³ SI17-01 was re-initialized on September 27, 2017, due to poor data quality during the first reading. SI17-03 was re-initialized on April 24, 2018, due to post-installation casing settlement/grouting issues.

Table 2.2 Vibrating Wire Piezometer Reading Summary

Instrument ID		Date		Ground Surface Elevation	Tip Depth (mbgs ¹)	Water Level			
	Installed	Previous Reading	Most Recent Reading	(m)		Drovieve Reading (mbgs1)	Most Recent Reading	Change from Previous	
				(111)		Previous Reading (mbgs-)	(mbgs ¹)	Reading (m)	
VW17-01	Jul. 13, 2017	June 12, 2023	May 8, 2024	1221.9	14.4	12.8	9.7	3.1	
VW17-02	Jul. 17, 2017	June 12, 2023	May 8, 2024	1199.0	14.0	3.3	N/A	N/A	
VW17-04B	Jul. 19, 2017	June 12, 2023	May 8, 2024	1208.3	7.5	-1.5	-1.9	0.4	

Note:

¹ Meters below ground surface (mbgs).



2.3 Interpretation of Monitoring Results

2.3.1 Site A

Prior to SI17-03 being re-initialized in April 2018 and SI17-04 becoming inoperable in 2018, settlement or buckling was observed in both instruments, which could indicate the instruments were poorly grouted with possible grout voids. The interpretation of the SI data is complicated by the potential for settlement or buckling of the SI casing in the poorly grouted casing segment. The instrument was re-initialized to remove possible noise associated with this zone. Overall data quality has improved since the instrument was re-initialized, but settlement or buckling of the casing may still be occurring at this depth. The rate of settlement or buckling has slowed since the first few months following installation and has been generally negligible since the instrument was re-initialized. If the settlement or buckling begins to impact the interpretation of the SI data again, the instrument may need to be re-initialized.

Since the SI17-03 was re-initialized to April 2018 reading, an overall slow rate of movement (less than 3 mm/year) has been recorded in SI17-03. The negative rate of movement recorded in this instrument during some readings indicates the rate of movement is within the accuracy of the reading equipment.

VW17-04B was installed 7.5 m below ground surface (approximately El. 1201 m) in the clay till. Relatively small and steady water level increases were recorded in VW17-04B since installation to September 23, 2020 (total increase of 2.5 m). The water level has since decreased by 0.2 m between September 2020 and May 2024. The water level recorded in VW17-04B is above-ground, indicating artesian groundwater conditions at this instrument.

2.3.2 Site B

Since installation in 2017, a slow rate of movement (less than 2 mm/year) has been recorded in SI17-01 in the clay till (an approximate depth of 6 m to 12 m below ground surface). Between the fall 2021 and spring 2022 readings, some movement was recorded between 6 m and 16 m below ground surface. This movement could be due to a small data shift caused by KCB changing the SI reading equipment when the old equipment became inoperable. The small rate of movement being recorded in the SIs makes the data sensitive to changes in equipment. More data is needed to assess.

Slow, steady movement (less than 1 mm/year) has been recorded in SI17-02 since it was installed in 2017. The movement is occurring from an approximate depth of 4 m to 5 m and 8 m to 11 m below ground surface in the clay till. The instrument is located at the toe of the slide at Site B, and the depth of movement is consistent with site observations.

Since installation, water levels recorded in VW17-01 (installed in the clay till) have fluctuated between 9.7 m and 13.3 m below ground surface. Before the reading frequency of the instrument was decreased from twice to once per year in 2020, water levels recorded in this instrument appeared to fluctuate seasonally, with the spring readings being lower than fall readings. The May 2024 reading increased 3.1 m since June 2023, which could be attributed to the increased



precipitation in spring 2024. At the time of writing this report, rainfall data was only available up to the end of March 2024.

Water levels recorded in VW17-02 (installed in the bedrock) have been relatively steady since installation between an approximate depth of 2.2 m and 3.6 m below ground surface. In May 2024 the VWP wires could not be located, after a subsequent site visit the wires were still unable to be located. It is assumed that the wires have fallen to the base of the head box but could not be retrieved. Equipment should be brought to site for the next readings to attempt to locate and retrieve the VWP wire.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Future Work

All instruments should continue to be read once per year (spring).

Preliminary engineering, final design, and tendering should be carried out before the slides retrogress further towards the highway and begin impacting the highway surface.

The site should continue to be inspected by the Maintenance Contract Inspector (MCI) and as part of the Southern Region GRMP Section B inspections.

3.2 Instrument Repairs and Maintenance

KCB will bring equipment to site during the next site visit to try and retrieve the VWP wire that could not be located within the head box.

4 CLOSURE

This report is an instrument of service of Klohn Crippen Berger (KCB). The report has been prepared for the exclusive use of Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (Client) for the specific application to the Southern Region Geohazard Risk Management Program (Contract No. CON0022161), and it may not be relied upon by any other party without KCB's written consent.

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Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or comments regarding this report.

Yours truly,

KLOHN CRIPPEN BERGER LTD.

Peter Roy, P.Eng. Civil Engineer

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ATTACHMENTS

Figure Appendix I Instrumentation Plots









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Displ.

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APPENDIX I

Instrumentation Plots



