

July 10, 2024

Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 S012; H742:02, km 4.319 Spray Lakes Road Section C – 2024 Spring Readings

## 1 GENERAL

Six vibrating-wire-inline (VWI) extensometers (E1 through E6) consisting of twenty-four individual instruments were read at the S012 site in the Southern Region on May 9, 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 S012 site is located on Hwy 742:02, km 4.319 within the Town of Canmore limits and approximately 0.5 km northwest of the Spray Lakes Road and Three Sisters Parkway Junction. The approximate site coordinates are 5659724 N, 614296 E (UTM Zone 11, NAD 83). A site plan is presented in Figure 1.

The S012 site is located above a series of coal-mine voids associated with the abandoned coal-mine workings from the Canmore Mines Ltd. – No. 1. Mine. The No. 2 seam portion of the No. 1 mine is partially located beneath the S012 site (i.e., underlying Spray Lakes Road). The No. 2 seam is inclined at an angle of approximately 35° from horizontal with the upper portions of the coal mine void, and associated post-mining roof collapse, being within approximately 3 m to 4 m of the highway surface. In 2021, the risk of highway collapse into the coal-mine void was mitigated by drilling twenty-five 0.5-m-diameter boreholes through the highway surface to intercept the coal-mine voids and areas of post mining collapse that were closest to the highway surface, then backfilling the encountered coal-mine voids and boreholes with controlled low strength (CLS) concrete.

The shallow coal mine voids closest to the highway were backfilled because this portion of the coalmine void was judged to have a greater likelihood of a brittle failure and collapse into the coal mine void. Areas with greater roof thickness would be less likely to collapse suddenly to surface but instead was considered to progressively collapse over a longer period of time which could be monitored with extensometers. Therefore, coal mine voids at depth with roof thickness greater than approximately 19 m were not backfilled with concrete. The greater depths of coal-mine voids were also not

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backfilled with concrete due to potential environmental impacts to Canmore Creek water quality associated with groundwater flows through the lower elevations of the coal mine which flowed to the mine portal, located a few meters from Canmore Creek.

Previous investigations at the S012 site include geotechnical site investigations completed in 2002 and 2007 by previous consultants. KCB completed a geophysical survey and geotechnical site investigation in 2017 and 2018, respectively, to support design and construction work.

# 1.1 Instrumentation

Six VWI extensometers bundles were installed by A&A Paving Ltd. and their instrumentation subconsultant RST Instruments Ltd. (RST) in September 2021 to monitor for vertical displacement (i.e., ground settlement) of the roof over the coal-mine voids in the years after construction. Three extensometers were installed in the eastbound (south) lane and three extensometers in the westbound (north) lane of Hwy 742:02. The extensometers were installed at depths varying from approximately 2 mbgs to 20 mbgs, based on the estimated thickness of the bedrock "roof" above the coal-mine void. One pair of VWIs (E1/E2) were installed above the backfilled-concrete coal-mine void and two pairs (E3/E4 and E5/E6) were installed over portions of the coal-mine void that were not backfilled with concrete.

Each extensometer was comprised of a set number of inflatable hydraulic anchors connected in series by flexible metal rods sheathed in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe. The cable leads for each anchor were routed up through the borehole and into PVC pipe that was placed in trenches excavated below the granular base course. All extensometer cables were trenched to a precast concrete vault installed on the north (westbound) slope of the highway, which provided a protective headbox for the cable leads and two multi-channel data loggers (RST Instruments Model No. DT2040 and DT2055B). The data loggers were configured to collect readings every 24 hours, which should allow for near-continuous monitoring for up to 5 years before the datalogger batteries need to be replaced. Additional installation details are included in the Final Details Report (report issued on May 1, 2023).

Data is collected from the data loggers by connecting the data loggers to a laptop (using an RST Instrument's USB cable) and using RST Instrument's DT Logger Host software.

The VWI extensometers were first read in October 2021. Instrumentation installation details are tabulated in Table 1.1. Instrument locations are shown in Figure 1.



	Serial No.	Anchor Depth (mbgs)	Above Concrete- Backfilled Coal- Mine Void (Y/N)	Approximate Roof Thickness (m) <sup>4</sup>	Approximate Roof	Date Installed	UTM Coordinates <sup>1</sup> (m)		Total Dopth <sup>2</sup>	
Instrument IDs					Thickness from Anchor Location (m) <sup>4</sup>		Northing	Easting	(mbgs)	Condition
E1 -	ME4206	2	Y	6 5	4.5	Sep. 16, 2021	5659731	614290	4.5	Operational
	ME4210	4	Y	0.5	2.5					
E2 -	ME4205	2	Y	15	2.5	Sep. 10, 2021	5659725	614291	4.6	Operational
	ME4190	4	Y	4.5	0.5					
_	ME4207	2	N	26.7	24.7		5659738	614272	18.6	Operational
_	ME4202	6	N		20.7	Sep. 16, 2021				
E3	ME4196	10	N		16.7					
	ME4193	14	Ν		12.7					
	ME4197	18	N		8.7					
	ME4204	2	N	23.0	21.0	Sep. 10, 2021	5659732	614275	18.5	Operational
_	ME4203	6	Ν		17.0					
E4	ME4198	10	N		13.0					
	ME4199	14	Ν		9.0					
	ME4191	18	N		5.0					
	ME4208 <sup>3</sup>	4	N	N/A N/A N/A N/A	<del>N/A</del>	Sep. 16, 2021	5659743	614257	20.6	Operational <sup>3</sup>
	ME4212	8	N		N/A					
E5	ME4189	12	N		N/A					
	ME4201	16	N		N/A					
	ME4192	20	N	N/A	N/A					
E6	ME4209	4	N	N/A N/A N/A N/A	N/A	Sep. 10, 2021	5659736	614259	20.3	Operational <sup>3</sup>
	ME4211 <sup>3</sup>	8	N		<del>N/A</del>					
	ME4200	12	N		N/A					
	ME4195	16	N		N/A					
	ME4194	20	N	N/A	N/A					

#### Table 1.1 Vibrating Wire Inline Extensometer Instrument Installation Details<sup>1</sup>

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Information obtained from KCB's Issued for Record (IFR) drawings.

<sup>2</sup> Meters below ground surface (mbgs).

<sup>3</sup> ME4208 and ME4211 have recorded irregular temperature readings since April 29, 2022 and June 28, 2022, respectively, and are currently inoperable.

<sup>4</sup> The estimated roof thickness is the thickness of material from ground surface to the top of the concrete-backfilled coal-mine void or open void, and was estimated from the IFR drawings (RD-27814-C and RD-27815-C). E5 and E5 are believed to be located outside of the area with coal-mine voids.



# 2 INTERPRETATION

# 2.1 General

The VWI extensometers are recording data (B-units and temperature in degrees Celsius) every 24 hours. The B-units and temperature readings are then used to calculate linear displacement in millimeters using RST's corrected linear displacement formula found in their extensometer manual (RST 2022). The linear displacement is relative to the initial displacement reading recorded by RST's field representative during extensometer installation in September 2021. Positive linear displacement indicates that the extensometer is being stretched (i.e., lengthened) and negative displacement indicates the extensometer is being contracted (i.e., shortened) (e-mail from RST dated November 24, 2022).

Twenty-four individual extensometers were installed in six boreholes labelled E1 to E6. Extensometers in the same borehole were plotted on the same data plot and the extensometer plots are included in Appendix I.



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ID	No.	Depth <sup>2</sup> (mbgs) <sup>1</sup>	Surface Elevation <sup>2</sup> (m)	Initialized	Reading Frequency	Previous Reading	Most Recent Reading	Previous Maximum Cumulative Movement Recorded	Maximum Cumulative Movement	Previous	Current	Change from Previous Reading	
E1	ME4206	2	1257.1	Oct 1 2021	Every 24-hours	Oct. 13, 2023	May 9, 2024	Sept. 5, 2023	-5.3	-5.2	-5.0	0.2	
	ME4210	0 4 13	1557.1	000. 1, 2021				Nov. 4, 2022	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	0.2	
E2	ME4205	2	1257.0	Oct. 1, 2021		Oct. 13, 2023	May 9, 2024	Nov. 3, 2023	0.6	-0.2	0.3	0.4	
	ME4190	4	1557.0					Oct. 26, 2023	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	0.0	
	ME4207	2				Oct. 13, 2023	May 9, 2024	Mar. 9, 2024	-3.0	-1.7	-1.5	0.2	
	ME4202	6		Oct. 1, 2021				May 23, 2023	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	
E3	ME4196	10	1357.8					Jan. 5, 2023	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	
	ME4193	14						Jan. 28, 2024	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	
	ME4197	18	1					Apr. 22, 2024	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
E4	ME4204	2		Oct. 1, 2021		Oct. 13, 2023		Oct. 31, 2023	1.4	1.1	1.3	0.2	
	ME4203	6					May 9, 2024	Mar 8, 2024	-1.0	-0.6	-0.8	-0.2	
	ME4198	10	1357.6					Nov. 28, 2021	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1	
	ME4199	14						May 9, 2024	-0.8	-0.7	-0.8	-0.1	
	ME4191	18						Jan. 8, 2022	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	
ME4208		4						N/A – irregular data					
E5 M	ME4212	8	1358.5	Oct. 1, 2021		Oct. 13, 2023	May 9, 2024	Apr. 15, 2022	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	
	ME4189	12						Jun. 15, 2023	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	
	ME4201	16						Jul. 29, 2022	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
	ME4192	20						May 9, 2024	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	
E6	ME4209	4	1358.4	4 Oct. 1, 2021		Oct. 13, 2023	May 9, 2024	Feb. 11, 2022	1.1	-0.6	-0.4	0.2	
	ME4211 <sup>4</sup>	8						N/A – irregular data					
	ME4200	12						Nov. 1, 2021	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
	ME4195	16						Apr. 5, 2024	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	
	ME4194	20						May 1, 2024	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Meters below ground surface (mbgs). Depth of instrument tip.

<sup>2</sup> Information obtained from KCB's Issued for Record (IFR) drawings.

<sup>3</sup> Positive linear displacement indicates extensometer is being lengthened and negative displacement indicates extensometer is being shortened.

<sup>4</sup> ME4208 and ME4211 have recorded irregular temperature readings since April 29, 2022 and June 28, 2022, respectively, and are currently inoperable.



# 2.2 Interpretation of Monitoring Results

RST's field representative recorded an initial reading for the extensometers during installation in September 2021. RST returned to site and connected the extensometers to two multi-channel data loggers on October 1, 2021 (approximately two weeks after the initial reading).

Continued collapse of the bedrock "roof" into the coal-mine void would initially result in deformation (extension) of the lower elevation extensometer anchors. The extensometer data was reviewed to assess if the placement of concrete in the coal-mine void has arrested the roof collapse mechanism and also to assess if roof collapse is occurring into the open coal mine void at greater depths where concrete was not placed.

Observations made on the extensometer data since installation include:

- Negative displacement (i.e., shortening) has been recorded in E1 ME4206 (2 mbgs), E3 ME4207 (2 mbgs), E4 ME4204 (2 mbgs), and E4ME4203 (6mbgs) of 5.3 mm, 3.0 mm, 1.4 mm, and 1.0 mm respectively, since installation and the first reading recorded by the data loggers. Positive displacement (r.e., lengthening) has been recorded in E6 ME4209 (4 mbgs) of 1.1 mm. The remaining extensometers recorded little to no change in displacement (i.e., less than 1 mm) between installation and first data logger readings.
- E5 ME4208 (4 mbgs) and E6 ME4211 (4 mbgs) have recorded irregular temperature readings since April 29, 2022 and June 28, 2022, respectively, and are inoperable. E5 and E6 are both located at the west extent of the repair site in the westbound and eastbound lanes, respectively.

The shallow extensometers (2 mbgs – 4 mbgs) have recorded the most linear displacement. Most of the extensometers with anchors installed below 4 mbgs have recorded little to no displacement since installation. The change in displacement (lengthening and contracting) recorded in the shallow extensometers appears to be due to seasonal temperature changes.

Seasonal trends and influences on the extensometer data should be reviewed after three years of data have been collected.

# **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### 3.1 Future Work

The data from the operational instruments should continue to be downloaded twice a year (spring and fall).

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

If the extensometer data indicates roof collapse is starting to occur, especially in areas where concrete backfilling was not conducted, the frequency of datalogger downloading will need to be



increased to more frequent intervals (or be automated with data sent via a cellular signal) to provide the opportunity for more frequent data review.

# 3.2 Instrument Repairs and Maintenance

The connection between the cable leads for E5 ME4208 and E6 ME4211 and the RST data loggers were inspected and reconnected during the 2023 and spring 2024 instrument readings to check if a poor connection was attributing to the irregular data being recorded for those two instruments. After completing this, the instruments were still recording irregular data. KCB will continue to trouble shoot why these instruments are recording irregular data.



# 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



# **FIGURE**





Readout Location (Concrete Vault)	Borehole ID	<b>E1</b> ME4206	<b>E2</b> ME4190	<b>E3</b> ME4193	<b>E4</b> ME4191	<b>E5</b> ME4189	<b>E6</b> ME4194
<ul> <li>Vibrating Wire Inline Extensometer</li> <li>Approximate Extent of Voids</li> <li>Approximate Location of Coal Mine Shafts</li> </ul>	Extensometer Serial Number	ME4210	ME4205	ME4196 ME4197 ME4202 ME4207	ME4198 ME4199 ME4203 ME4204	ME4199 ME4201 ME4208 ME4212	ME4195 ME4200 ME4209 ME4211



n	Berger	Hwy 742:02, km 4.319						
		SCALE 1:600	PROJECT No. A05116A03	FIG No. 1				

# **APPENDIX I**

**Instrumentation Plots** 













SURFACE.

VIBRATING WIRE INLINE EXTENSOMETERS WERE INSTALLED IN SEPTEMBER 2021. THE FIRST READINGS WERE TAKEN IN OCTOBER 2021.
 INITIAL LINEAR DISPLACEMENT IS RELATIVE TO THE INITIAL DISPLACEMENT RECORDED DURING INSTALLATION IN SEPTEMBER 2021.
 ONSITIVE LINEAR DISPLACEMENT INDICATES THE EXTENSOMETER IS BEING LENGTHENED AND NEGATIVE DISPLACEMENT INDICATES EXTENSOMETER IS BEING
 CONTRACTED.
 A. EXTENSOMETERS DEPTHS REPRESENT ANCHOR DEPTHS OBTAINED FROM ISSUED FOR RECORD DRAWINGS. DEPTHS ARE IN METERS BELOW GROUND

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