



Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Provincial Building 4920 – 51<sup>st</sup> Street Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6K8

Tony Penney, P.Eng. Construction Engineer

Dear Mr. Penney:

CON0022160 Central Region GRMP Instrumentation Monitoring Site C017-3; H575:04, km 26.631 Truckstop Slide Section C – 2025 Spring Readings

#### 1 GENERAL

One slope inclinometer (SI) (SI20-C017-01) and two vibrating wire piezometers (VWPs) (VW69731 and VW69732) were read at the C017-3 site in the Central Region on May 20, 2025 by Evan Hergott, E.I.T. of Klohn Crippen Berger Ltd. (KCB). These instruments were read as part of the Central Region Geohazard Risk Management Program (GRMP). The site is located on Hwy 575:04, km 26.631 to 26.050, approximately 10 km northwest of Drumheller, Alberta. The approximate site coordinates are 5707738 N, 370340 E (UTM Zone 12, NAD 83). A site plan is presented in Figure 1.

The C017 site consists of three geohazard subsites (C017-1 through -3) along an approximate 600 m length of Hwy 575:04, where the highway alignment is along the south slope of the Red Deer River valley. The geohazard at each subsite consists of:

- C017-1: a shallow embankment slope failure on the north side (westbound lane) of Hwy 575:04,
- C017-2: an erosion gully that has formed downslope of a culvert outlet on the north side (westbound lane) of Hwy 575:04, and
- C017-3: a moderately deep-seated slide on the north side (westbound lane) of Hwy 575:04 where the highway crosses a creek and enters a cut section in the valley wall.

No instrumentation is installed at the C017-1 or C017-2 sites, so these sites will not be discussed further herein.

In October 2020 and April 2022, KCB conducted two geotechnical site investigations at the C017-3 site to install geotechnical instruments and support design and construction work (no instruments were installed during the 2022 investigation). Drilling was completed by Mobile Augers and



Research Ltd. The encountered stratigraphy was generally as follows: silty clay/clayey silt, overlying bedrock (mudstone and clay shale). The encountered surficial stratigraphy was generally consistent with the stratigraphy encountered during a 2020 test pitting investigation.

KCB completed design work for the C017-1 and C017-3 sites in 2023 and the tender was advertised in May 2024. The contract was awarded in September 2024 (TEC Contact No. CON0022533) and construction was completed between January and June 2025.

#### 1.1 Instrumentation

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

In October 2020, KCB installed one SI (SI20-C017-01) and two VWPs (VW69731 and VW69732) to monitor depth of movement and groundwater conditions, respectively. The instruments were installed in borehole BH20-C017-1, located on the north (downslope) side of Hwy 575:04, within the C017-3 slide mass.

The instruments are protected by an above-ground casing protector.

The SI was read using the same metric RST Digital MEMS Inclinometer System that has been used to read the SI since the instrument was re-initialized in June 2021, when the SI equipment was changed.

The VWPs were read using a Slope Indicator VW Data Recorder vibrating wire readout.

Table 1.1 Instrumentation Installation Details

| Instrument    | Instrume | Date          | UTM Coord | linates¹ (m) | Ground Surface | Stick Up | Depth   | Condition |
|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|----------|---------|-----------|
| ID            | nt Type  | Installed     | Northing  | Easting      | Elevation¹ (m) | (m)      | (mbgs²) | Condition |
| SI20-C017- 01 | SI       | Oct. 06, 2020 | 5707762   | 370348       | 747            | 0.8      | 17.3    | Operable  |
| VW69731       | VWP      | Oct. 06, 2020 | 5707762   | 370348       | 747            | N/A      | 11.0    | Operable  |
| VW69732       | VWP      | Oct. 06, 2020 | 5707762   | 370348       | 747            | N/A      | 3.4     | Operable  |

#### Notes:

#### 2 INTERPRETATION

#### 2.1 General

For the SI, the cumulative displacement, incremental displacement, and displacement-time data was plotted in the A-direction (i.e., the direction of the A0-grooves) and in the X-direction (i.e., the direction of maximum movement obtained at a skew angle from the A0-grooves). SI20-C017-01 has a skew angle of 325°, measured clockwise from the direction of the A0-grooves.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Coordinates and ground surface elevations were estimated from February 2020 survey data.

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

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

Distributed movement is being recorded in SI20-C017-01 in the upper 6 m and from approximately 14 m to 16 m below ground surface.

# 2.3 Interpretation of Monitoring Results

Based on the stratigraphy encountered during the 2020 drilling investigation, the upper and lower zones of movement recorded in SI20-C017-01 appear to be occurring in a soft zone in the embankment fill (silty clay and sand) and in the underlying foundation material (sandy silt), respectively.

An overall relatively slow rate of movement (less than approximately 3 mm/year) has been recorded in the SI since June 2021, excluding an increased rate of movement (approximately 6 mm/year) recorded in fall 2022 after wet weather in summer 2022. There was a relatively small increased rate of movement recorded in the shallow zone of movement (approximately 8 mm/year) between the fall 2024 and spring 2025 readings, which may be attributed to construction activities at the site as part of C017-1 and -3 repair work (increased truck traffic and earthworks at the C017-3 site). Increased movement may occur in response to higher groundwater level caused by periods of heavy or prolonged rainfall or freshet infiltration.

Since installation in October 2020, porewater pressures recorded in the two VWPs (VW69731 and VW69732) have been within ±0.2 m of the tip elevation for each instrument, indicating these instruments are dry. Since an elevated groundwater level is believed to be one of the factors driving instability of the slide at the C017-3 site, KCB believes the piezometers may have been installed at depths that do not record transient changes in groundwater or that the current bi-annual reading frequency of the instruments does not capture short-term fluctuations (i.e., increases and decreases) in water level that could be occurring in response to heavy rainfall events or freshet infiltration between readings.

# Table 2.1 Slope Inclinometer Reading Summary

|                  | Date  |              |               |               |                |                       |                              | Movement (mm)               |       |                             |          | Rate of Movement (mm/year) |                  |     |
|------------------|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|------------------|-----|
| Instrument<br>ID | Initialized (Re-initialized) <sup>2</sup> Previous Maximum Cumulative Movement Recorded |              | Previous      | Most Recent   | Ground Surface | Depth of Movement     | Direction of                 | Maximum Cumulative          |       | Incremental Since           | Previous | Most                       | Change from      |     |
|                  |   |              | Reading       | Elevation (m) | (mbgs¹)        | Movement <sup>3</sup> | Before Re-<br>Initialization | After Re-<br>Initialization | Total | Previous Maximum Cumulative | Maximum  | Recent<br>Reading          | Previous Reading |     |
| SI20-C017-01     | Oct. 16, 2020   | 20           | Sep. 17, 2024 | May 20, 2025  | 747            | 3.5 – 6.9             | X-Direction                  | 2.2                         | 13.9  | 16.1                        | 1.7      | 5.6                        | 2.6              | 2.1 |
|                  | (Jun. 12, 2021)   | May 13, 2024 |               |               |                | 12.9 – 17.0           | 325°                         | 0.9                         | 5.9   | 6.8                         | 1.0      | 2.4                        | 1.4              | 0.0 |

# Notes:

# **Table 2.2** Vibrating Wire Piezometer Reading Summary

| Instrument ID /<br>Serial No. | Date         |                  |                     | Ground Surface Elevation | Tin Donth            | Water Level              |  |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|
|                               | Installed    | Previous Reading | Most Recent Reading | (m)                      | Tip Depth<br>(mbgs¹) | Previous Reading (mbgs¹) | Most Recent Reading (mbgs <sup>1</sup> ) | Change from Previous<br>Reading (m) |  |
| VW69731                       | Oct. 6, 2020 | Sep. 17, 2024    | May 20, 2025        | 747                      | 11.0                 | 11.1                     | 11.2                                     | -0.1                                |  |
| VW69732                       | Oct. 6, 2020 | Sep. 17, 2024    | May 20, 2025        | 747                      | 3.4                  | 3.4                      | 3.4                                      | 0.0                                 |  |

# Notes:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Meters below ground surface (mbgs).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The SI was re-initialized to the June 12, 2021 reading since the data did not match well with the readings taken with the previous SI equipment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Skew angle of X-direction measured clockwise from the A-direction.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Meters below ground surface (mbgs).

## 3 RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 3.1 Future Work

All operable instruments should continue to be read twice per year (spring and fall).

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

# 3.2 Instrument Repairs and Maintenance

No instrument repairs or maintenance is required. However, installation of a data logger with one or more of the VWPs may be beneficial, as more frequent readings may capture short-term fluctuations (i.e., increases and decreases) in groundwater level that could be occurring in response to periods of heavy or prolonged rainfall or freshet infiltration between readings.

#### 4 CLOSING

This report is an instrument of service of Klohn Crippen Berger Ltd. (KCB). The report has been prepared for the exclusive use of Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (Client) for the specific application to the Central Region Geohazard Risk Management Program (Contract No. CON0022160), and it may not be relied upon by any other party without KCB's written consent.

KCB has prepared this report in a manner consistent with the level of care, skill and diligence ordinarily provided by members of the same profession for projects of a similar nature at the time and place the services were rendered. KCB makes no warranty, express or implied.

Use of or reliance upon this instrument of service by the Client is subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The report is to be read in full, with sections or parts of the report relied upon in the context of the whole report.
- 2. The observations, findings and conclusions in this report are based on observed factual data and conditions that existed at the time of the work and should not be relied upon to precisely represent conditions at any other time.
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5. This report is electronically signed and sealed and its electronic form is considered the original. A printed version of the original can be relied upon as a true copy when supplied by the author or when printed from its original electronic file.

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

Yours truly,

KLOHN CRIPPEN BERGER LTD.

James Lyons, P.Eng. Civil Engineer

JL:bb

Evan Hergott, E.I.T. Civil Engineer-in-Training

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#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Figure

Appendix I Instrumentation Plots

Site C017-3; H575:04, km 26.631 Truckstop Slide Section C – 2025 Spring Readings

**FIGURE** 

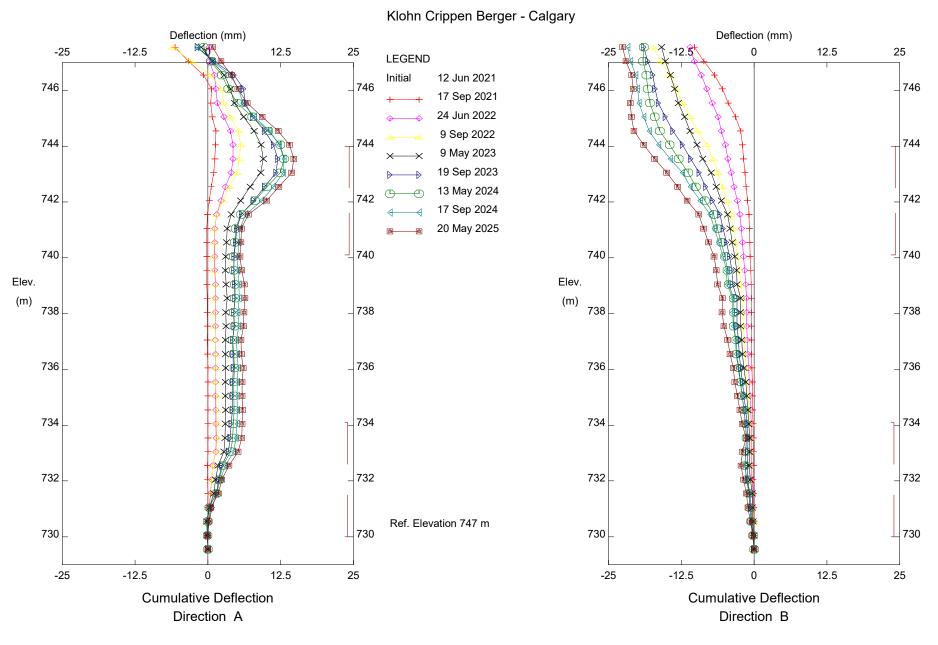
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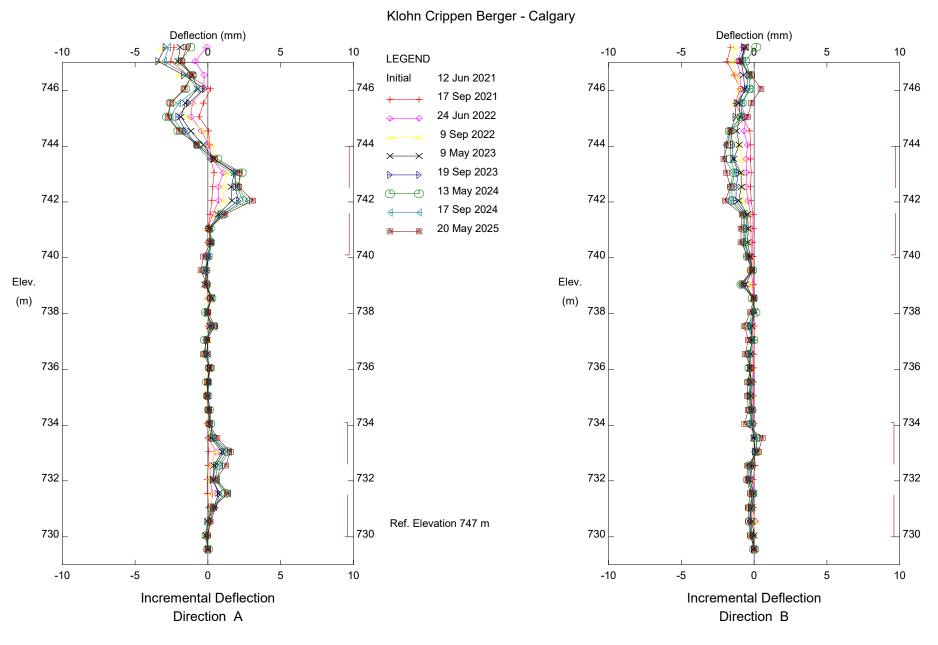
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# **APPENDIX I**

**Instrumentation Plots** 

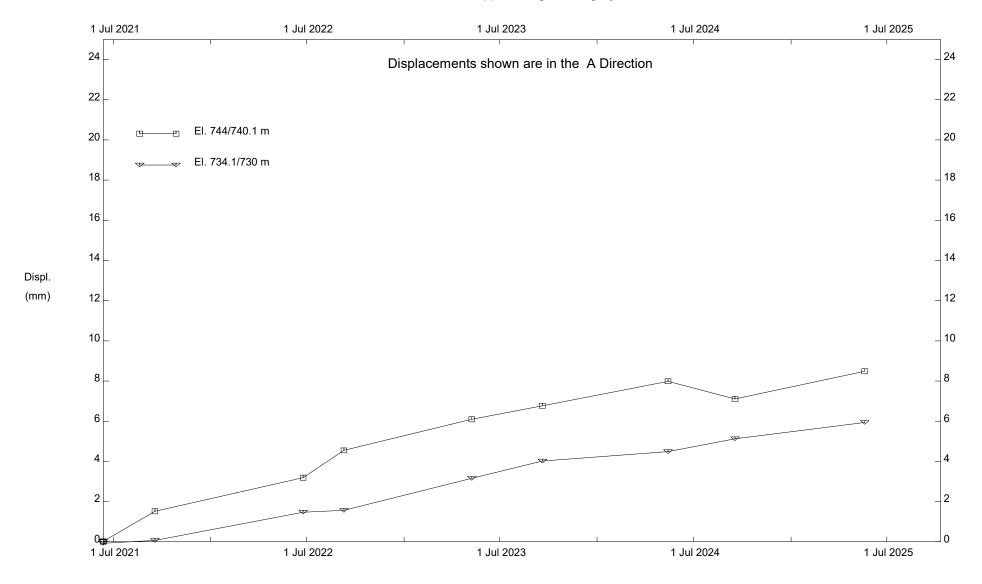


C017-III; H575:04; Truckstop Slide, Inclinometer SI20-01
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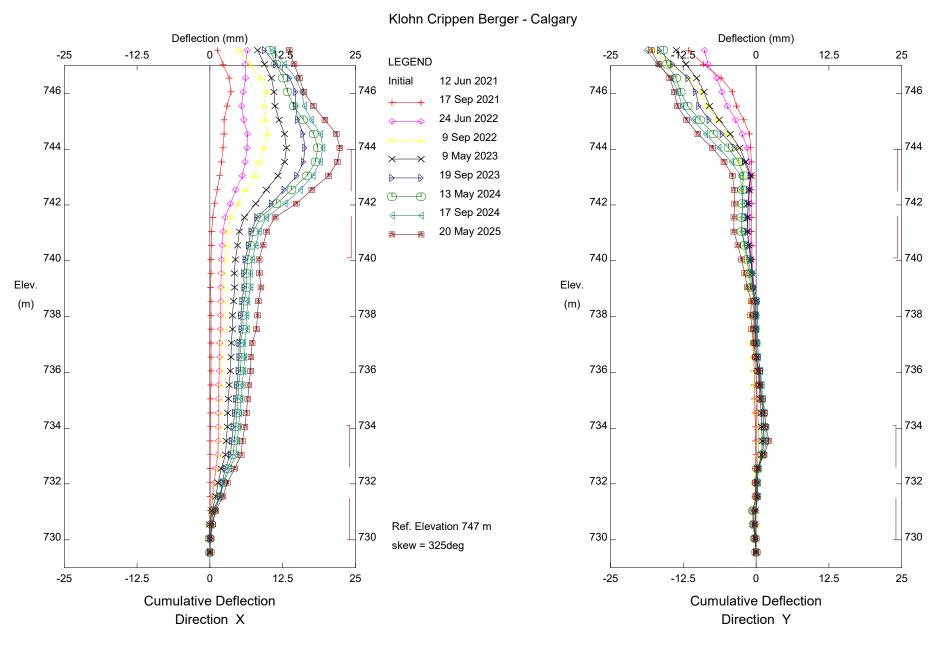
C017-III; H575:04; Truckstop Slide, Inclinometer SI20-01
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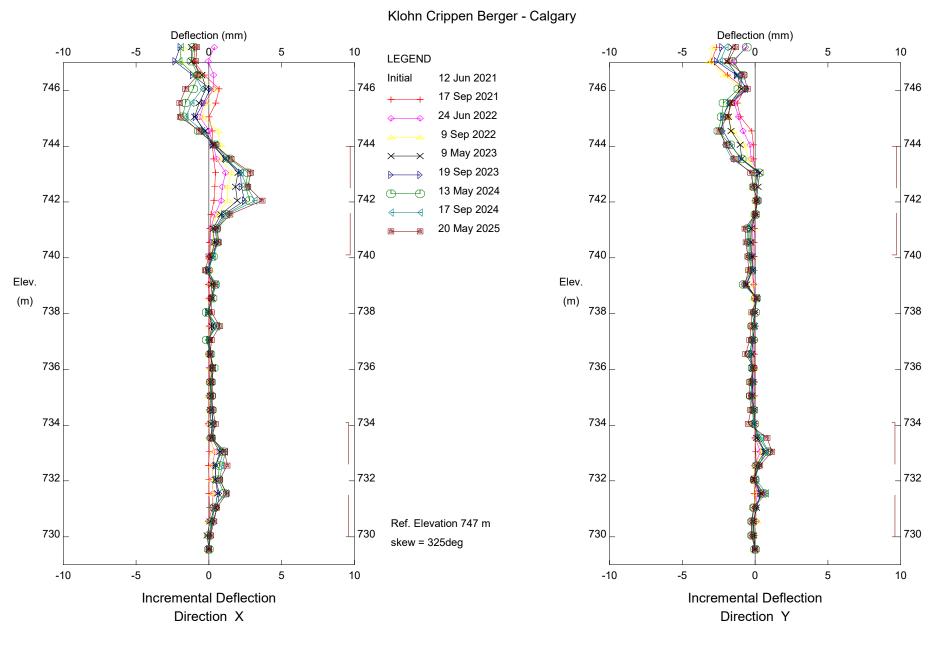


C017-III; H575:04; Truckstop Slide, Inclinometer SI20-01

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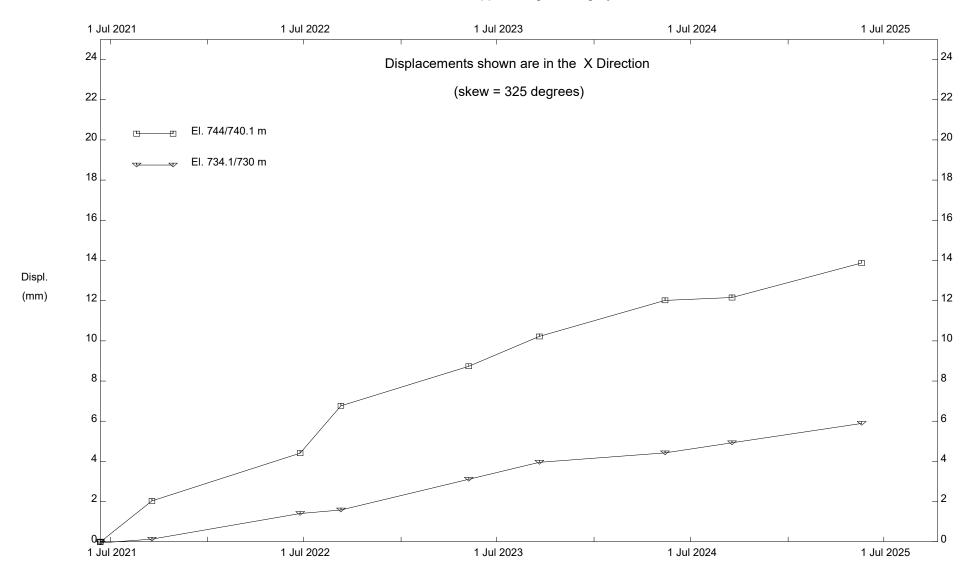


C017-III; H575:04; Truckstop Slide, Inclinometer SI20-01
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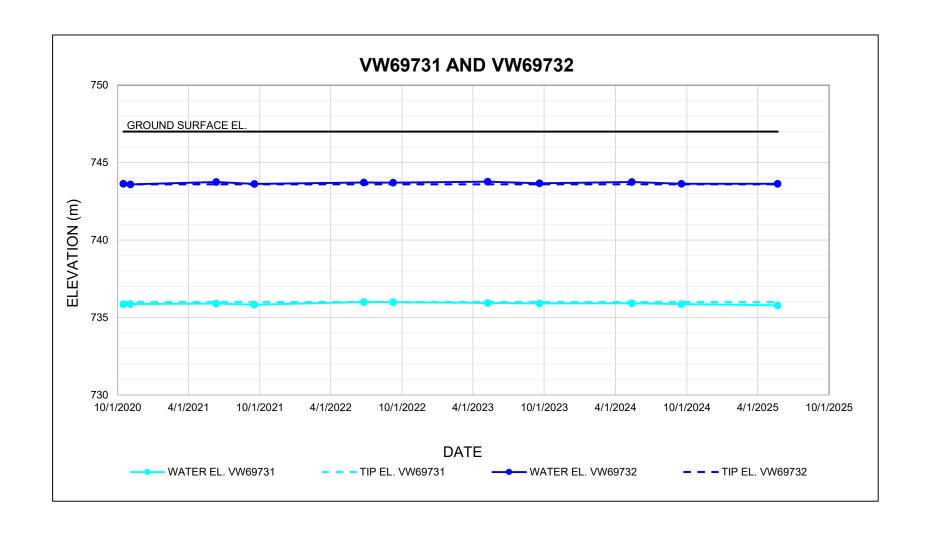
C017-III; H575:04; Truckstop Slide, Inclinometer SI20-01
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C017-III; H575:04; Truckstop Slide, Inclinometer SI20-01

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# NOTES: 1. GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION ESTIMATED FROM SURVEY DATA FROM FEBRUARY 2020.

