ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION GEOHAZARD ASSESSMENT PROGRAM PEACE REGION (GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT- NORTH) 2021 INSPECTION



Site Number	Location	Name	Hwy	km	
PH026	Eureka River North Hill	Sites #3, #5 and #6	726:02	10.1	
Legal Description		UTM Co-ordinates (NAD83)			
SW13/SE14-86-8-W6		11 N 6258740	E 368408	3	

	Date	PF	CF	Total	
Previous Inspection:	June 15, 2020	12	4	48 (Site 3)	
Previous inspection.		12	5	60 (Sites 5 and 6)	
Current Inspection:	July 13, 2021	12	4	48 (Site 3)	
Current inspection.		9	5	45 (Sites 5 and 6)	
Road AADT:	420		Year:	2020	
	Barry Meays, Don Proudfoot (Thurber)				
Inspected By:	Ed Szmata, Roger Skirrow, Rocky Wang, Ken Szmata (AT)				
Report Attachments:		✓ Maintenance Items			

Primary Site Issue:	Slide scarp at Site #3 crossing highway at 2 locations wa 2013. Two other slide areas developing further north, lik one larger slide. A new landslide occurred in 2017 (Si west sideslope between the upper pile wall and the bridge	ely linked as te #3) in the		
Dimensions:	Main slide at Site 3 was about 60 m long by 100 m wide. Slide Sites 5/6 are in the order of 200 m wide (along the highway) by 200 m long. The new slide is about 20 m wide along the highway and 35 m (avg. toward the river) in a 12 m high embankment slope.			
Date of any remediation:	Slide Site 3 was remediated in 2013 with 2 pile walls and riprap.			
Maintenance:	Semi-continuous patching and crack sealing at Sites 5/6.			
Observations:	Description	Worse?		
Pavement Distress	Cracks, differential settlement, subsidence, and dips in the pavement and shoulders at Sites 5/6. Also, at Site 3, alligator cracked area at the south end of the lightweight fill along with a hump near the north end, and map cracking is occurring over the majority of area where lightweight fill was placed. The new slide at Site 3 has extended into the paved shoulder of the highway.	Þ		
✓ Slope Movement	Slides at Sites 5 and 6 continue to creep, which requires periodic pavement maintenance. Also, the newer slide south of the upper pile wall at Site 3 is actively moving.	>		
☑ Erosion	At Site 3: There are some erosion rills on the sparsely vegetated area between the highway and the upper pile wall.			
✓ Seepage	A seepage area exists (emanating from the highway GBC) 12m south of the south end of the upper pile wall in the highway embankment (which contributed to the 2017 slide). There is also a seepage area in the east ditch even with the north end of the upper pile wall.	\S		
☐ Bridge/Culvert Distress				
✓ Other	Maintenance issues require attention: gutter plate, silt filled concrete gutter, & damaged guardrail end. Also, the exposed concrete on the top of the upper pile wall is spalling.			

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Instrumentation: Last Read on July 16, 2021

Sl08-1: Sheared off at 4.9m depth in 2009 (Prev. move zones at 5m & 7m). Sl08-2: Sheared off at 9.8m depth in 2008 (Prev. move zones at 9 & 13m). Sl08-3: Sheared off at 7.9m depth in 2009 (Prev. move zones at 8 & 13m). Sl11-5: Sheared off at 8.7m depth in 2014 (Prev. move zone at 9m). Sl11-6: Sheared off at 17.1m depth in 2014 (Prev. move zone at 18m). Sl11-7: Sheared off at 17m depth in 2013 (Prev. move zone at 18.5m). Sl11-3 showed 5 mm/yr above 5 m depth, but no significant movement between the time of 2018 to 2020, and had previously moved at an average rate of ~5 mm/year at a depth above 5 m since the spring of 2014. Sl11-4 showed 0 movement, and no significant movement above a 10m depth since spring 2017, and has averaged <1mm/yr since spring, 2014.

Upper Wall: SI12-P9U (North end), and SI12-P26U (South end), both showed negligible movements over both the length of waler & pile, and the length of pile only; while SI12-P17U (center) showed movements of 1 mm/yr over length of waler & pile, and 2 mm/yr over length of the pile only, in the downslope direction towards the river. The 6 anchor load cells indicated continued load stabilization with loads that vary between 175 KN to 224 KN per anchor (fluctuations varying between a gain of 3 KN/anchor to a loss of 5 KN/anchor since fall of 2020), compared to the initial peak load stressing of about 250 to 260 KN per anchor. The design load was 300 KN/anchor, but the anchor lock off load was 240 KN.

Lower Wall over the length of the piles: SI12-P3L (North end), SI12-P9L (center), and SI12-P14L (South end), all showed negligible movement over this most recent reading cycle. Historically since installation in the fall of 2012, SI12-P3L and SI12-P9L have averaged about 1.5 mm/yr movement, while SI12-P14L has averaged about <0.5 mm/yr, all downslope towards the River.

Water levels (all BGS) in: PN11-3 at 12.9m; VW11-7 at 15.8m; SP19-1 at 2.7m; and SP19-2 at 11.5m.

Assessment:

At Site #3, construction to repair a series of translational slide blocks along a common deep-seated slip plane was completed in 2013. This featured a tied-back pile wall along the west side of the existing highway. This included excavation of soil and incorporation of lightweight fill along the existing highway alignment, an additional 60 m long lower cantilever pile wall located nearer the River below Site 3 to keep the soil from eroding into the river and remain intact below the tied back pile wall and armoring the toe of the River with Class 2 Riprap.

In the upper wall at Site #3, the 3 SI's have generally indicated negligible movement over the last year. Over the last few years, there appears to be some oscillating fluctuations in the movements between spring and fall, which temporarily reverse the short directional movements in SI12-P9U and SI12-P17U, and to some extent in SI12-P26U. The load cells indicate the latest anchor load readings fluctuated between about -2% and +1%, but the anchor loads are showing the general relaxation trend is slowing or possibly even reversing the last few years. This indicates that in general (since 2017 and excluding oscillating fluctuations), the piles ceased being pulled upslope and are beginning to reach a state of equilibrium with the soil.

In the lower cantilever wall, all 3 SI's indicate negligible movements towards the River over the last year and appear to be stabilizing.

Based on these readings and site observations, the two walls, sheet piles, and riprap have effectively stabilized the original large landslide at Site 3.

The seepage from the pavement GBC observed in 2016 south of the upper pile wall and ongoing weathering of the fill are the likely causes of the slide that occurred south of the upper pile wall in 2017. The seepage likely saturated the GBC and embankment fill with time, which created a weak soil mass that eventually failed, carrying the material down into the River.

Pavement deflections and alligator cracks have showed up in both lanes (southbound lane worse) near each end of the upper pile wall where the lightweight (Geofoam) fill ends. The southbound lane ACP is

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in poor shape from the south end of the slide area to about 11 m north of the south end of the wall. Also, map cracking exists quite extensively over the pavement adjacent to the upper pile wall. This is surmised to be due to flexing of the pavement structure overtop of the Geofoam in response to heavy truck traffic, and also different thermal characteristics from freeze-thaw compared to total soil bedding. Some of the pavement distress was remediated by placing an asphalt patch at the north end of the wall in 2020.

The exposed concrete along the top of the upper pile wall is spalling. This was attributed to weaker than design strengths on this material, for which the contractor was penalized for low strengths at that time.

Slide features at/between the newer Sites 5 and 6 have not changed significantly over the last year, although a patch is proposed (and marked) at Site 6 for later this year. In previous years, more cracking, patching, distortion, and more pronounced subsidence over the dips had been noted. The cracks observed between the intermittent cracks previously found along the east ditch/backslope and the subsidence also were basically unchanged this year. The inclinometers installed in 2011 (Sl's 11-3, -5, -6 and -7), which were previously showing movements in the order of 15 to 25 mm/year, have all sheared off within the last few years, except for Sl's 11-3 and 11-4 which are located very near the top of the slide scarp. This indicates movements are occurring at both Sites 5 and 6, in addition to between them, at depths as deep as 18.5 m below ground surface. This more closely defines the slide boundary between Sites 5 and 6 and outlines the edge of a single larger slide moving towards the river.

Recommendations:

Maintenance

Continue to mill, patch, and crack seal the highway as required at Sites 5 and 6.

It is understood that AT is planning an overlay to be applied to the highway throughout the valley crossing section. Prior to placing the overlay, the design engineer should consider doing a full depth subgrade repair to improve the strength of the pavement and better bridge over the softer geofoam zone, by: Excavating the majority of the 0.7 m of clay subgrade to near the surface of the geofoam; Replacing the clay subgrade to compaction specifications; Installing geogrid in the compacted GBC; then Repaving these areas.

Consider covering the slope in between the pavement and the upper wall with hand placed asphalt, as there is sparse grass growth here and some rilling has formed.

It was understood that the Site 3 pile wall should be added to the Bridge File yearly maintenance program, which would include gutter (concrete swale) cleaning at the same time as bridge deck cleaning occurs.

- 1) Clean the gutter of soil/debris buildup under the handrail adjacent to the west side of the highway, and securely fasten the loose gutter grate.
- 2) Repair the damaged north collapsible guardrail end.
- 3) The spalled concrete on the surface of the upper pile wall should be repaired by placing a proper concrete sealant over the entire exposed surface to prevent any further degradation.
- 4) A steel sleeve could be installed over the gap in the handrail.

Short Term

At Site 3, the slide that occurred due to seepage near the south end of the guardrail along the west highway embankment should be repaired. A geotechnical investigation and preliminary design were completed by Thurber (dated Nov 21, 2019) as part of Paving Contract #20531, that assessed and provided remedial cost alternatives. The following two most feasible alternative repair options were:

 Excavate the slumped material in the west highway embankment, disposing of the material outside and away from the valley crests. Install non-woven geotextile and a subdrain system along the base of the excavated slump. Sheet piles will need to be installed along the slide toe

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to minimize river inflow, and in conjunction with riprap to prevent future toe erosion. Re-build the new highway embankment using compacted gravel to re-establish the existing slope and to surround the subdrains. Extend the subdrains through the lower portion of the re-built slope to outlet on some Class 1M riprap above the river. Enhance the riprap along the toe of the repaired area

Ballpark Cost ~\$850,000.

2) Install two rows of sheet piles, one near the highway and one lower down the slope to retain the slide mass, and also install a subdrain system and enhance the riprap along the waters edge.

Ballpark Cost ~\$850,000.

Long Term

Thurber performed a preliminary geotechnical investigation and design (see Report dated July 17, 2009), which outlined various remediation alternatives/costs consisting of three major highway re-alignment options (two of which utilize the existing crossing), a minor highway re-alignment, or constructing pile walls at each site individually. TRANS is considering which alternative to pursue in respect of costs and future planning. A functional planning study was completed by Morrison Hershfield Ltd. in 2012, which recommended Option #1B be adopted – i.e., a major re-alignment which utilizes the existing crossing but is perpendicular to the river and raises the crossing grade elevation but passes through the farmyard. A separate recommendation for armouring the river along the downstream toe of Slide Site 3 for the minor re-alignment and individual site repairs was also provided in Thurber's report, but this was already performed as extra work for the Site 3 slide repair contract.

The major highway re-alignment is still considered the best long-term recommendation, since the slip surfaces at Sites 5 and 6 are too deep to stabilize with a cost-effective pile wall.

CLOSURE

It is a condition of this letter report that Thurber's performance of its professional services will be subject to the attached Statement of Limitations and Conditions.

Don Proudfoot, P.Eng. Principal | Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Barry Meays, P.Eng. Senior Geotechnical Engineer

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1. STANDARD OF CARE

This Report has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted engineering or environmental consulting practices in the applicable jurisdiction. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is intended or made.

2. COMPLETE REPORT

All documents, records, data and files, whether electronic or otherwise, generated as part of this assignment are a part of the Report, which is of a summary nature and is not intended to stand alone without reference to the instructions given to Thurber by the Client, communications between Thurber and the Client, and any other reports, proposals or documents prepared by Thurber for the Client relative to the specific site described herein, all of which together constitute the Report.

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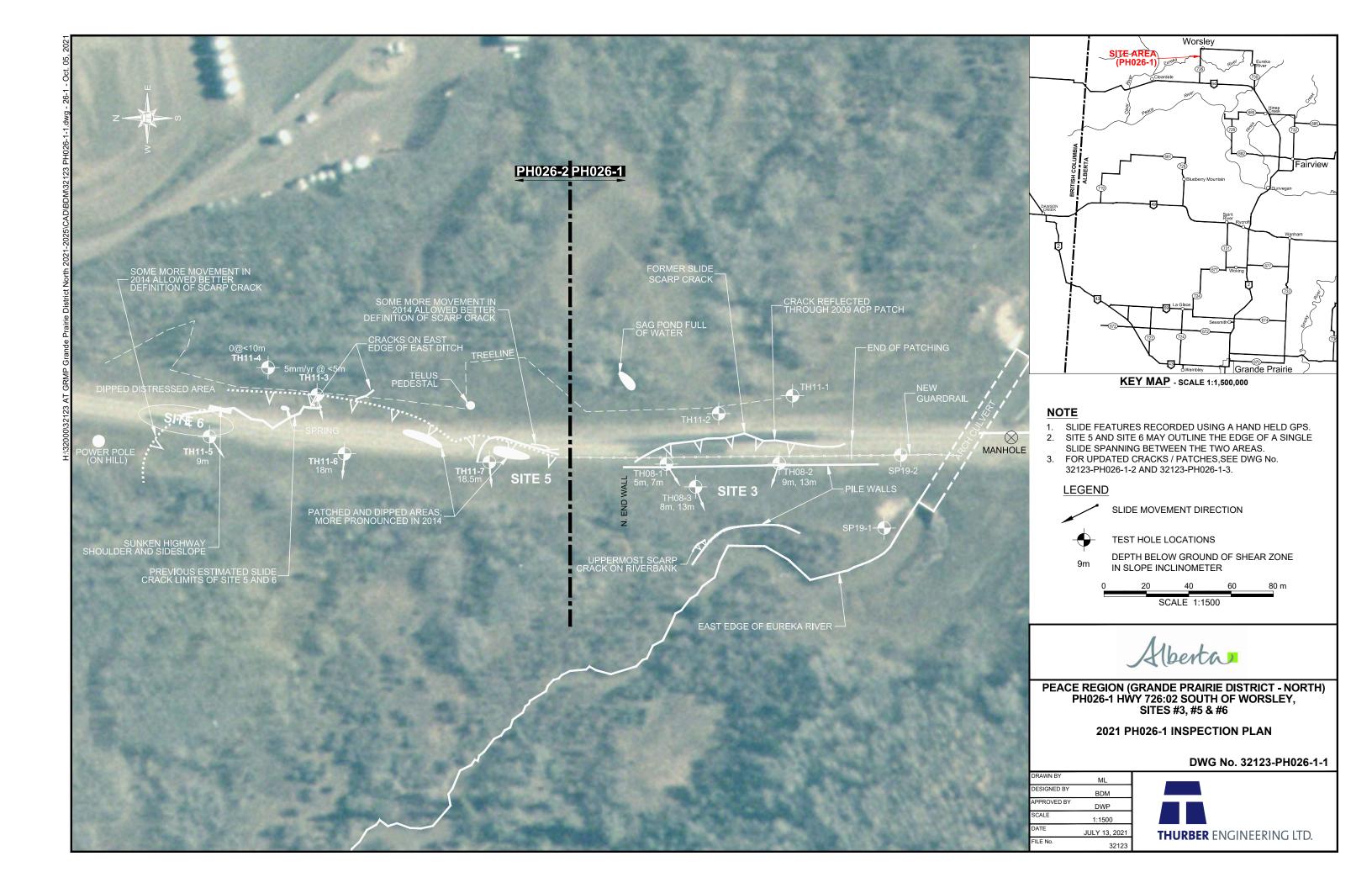
- a) Nature and Exactness of Soil and Contaminant Description: Classification and identification of soils, rocks, geological units, contaminant materials and quantities have been based on investigations performed in accordance with the standards set out in Paragraph 1. Classification and identification of these factors are judgmental in nature. Comprehensive sampling and testing programs implemented with the appropriate equipment by experienced personnel may fail to locate some conditions. All investigations utilizing the standards of Paragraph 1 will involve an inherent risk that some conditions will not be detected and all documents or records summarizing such investigations will be based on assumptions of what exists between the actual points sampled. Actual conditions may vary significantly between the points investigated and the Client and all other persons making use of such documents or records with our express written consent should be aware of this risk and the Report is delivered subject to the express condition that such risk is accepted by the Client and such other persons. Some conditions are subject to change over time and those making use of the Report should be aware of this possibility and understand that the Report only presents the conditions at the sampled points at the time of sampling. If special concerns exist, or the Client has special considerations or requirements, the Client should disclose them so that additional or special investigations may be undertaken which would not otherwise be within the scope of investigations made for the purposes of the Report.
- b) Reliance on Provided Information: The evaluation and conclusions contained in the Report have been prepared on the basis of conditions in evidence at the time of site inspections and on the basis of information provided to Thurber. Thurber has relied in good faith upon representations, information and instructions provided by the Client and others concerning the site. Accordingly, Thurber does not accept responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in the Report as a result of misstatements, omissions, misrepresentations, or fraudulent acts of the Client or other persons providing information relied on by Thurber. Thurber is entitled to rely on such representations, information and instructions and is not required to carry out investigations to determine the truth or accuracy of such representations, information and instructions.
- c) Design Services: The Report may form part of design and construction documents for information purposes even though it may have been issued prior to final design being completed. Thurber should be retained to review final design, project plans and related documents prior to construction to confirm that they are consistent with the intent of the Report. Any differences that may exist between the Report's recommendations and the final design detailed in the contract documents should be reported to Thurber immediately so that Thurber can address potential conflicts.
- d) Construction Services: During construction Thurber should be retained to provide field reviews. Field reviews consist of performing sufficient and timely observations of encountered conditions in order to confirm and document that the site conditions do not materially differ from those interpreted conditions considered in the preparation of the report. Adequate field reviews are necessary for Thurber to provide letters of assurance, in accordance with the requirements of many regulatory authorities.

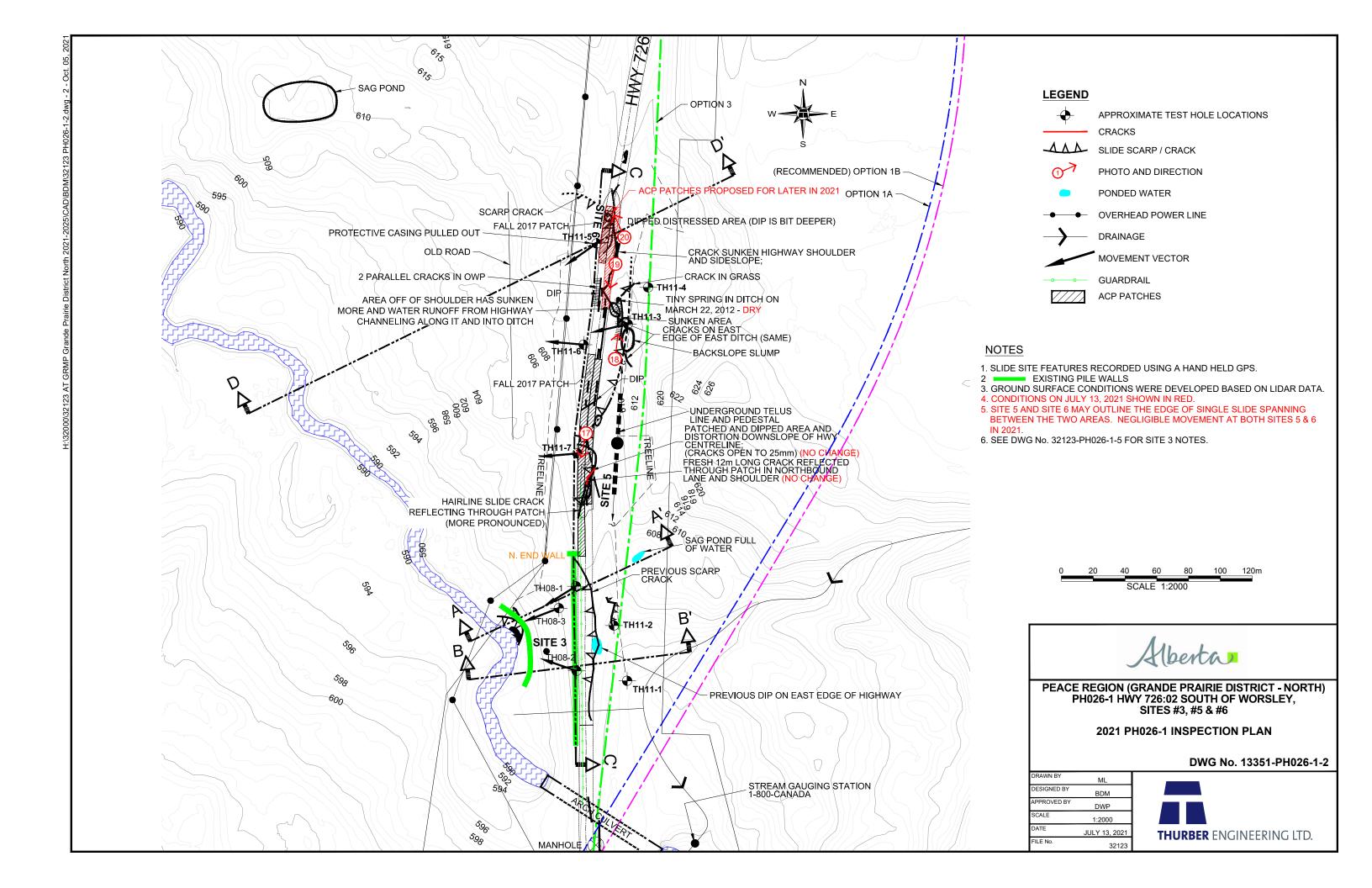
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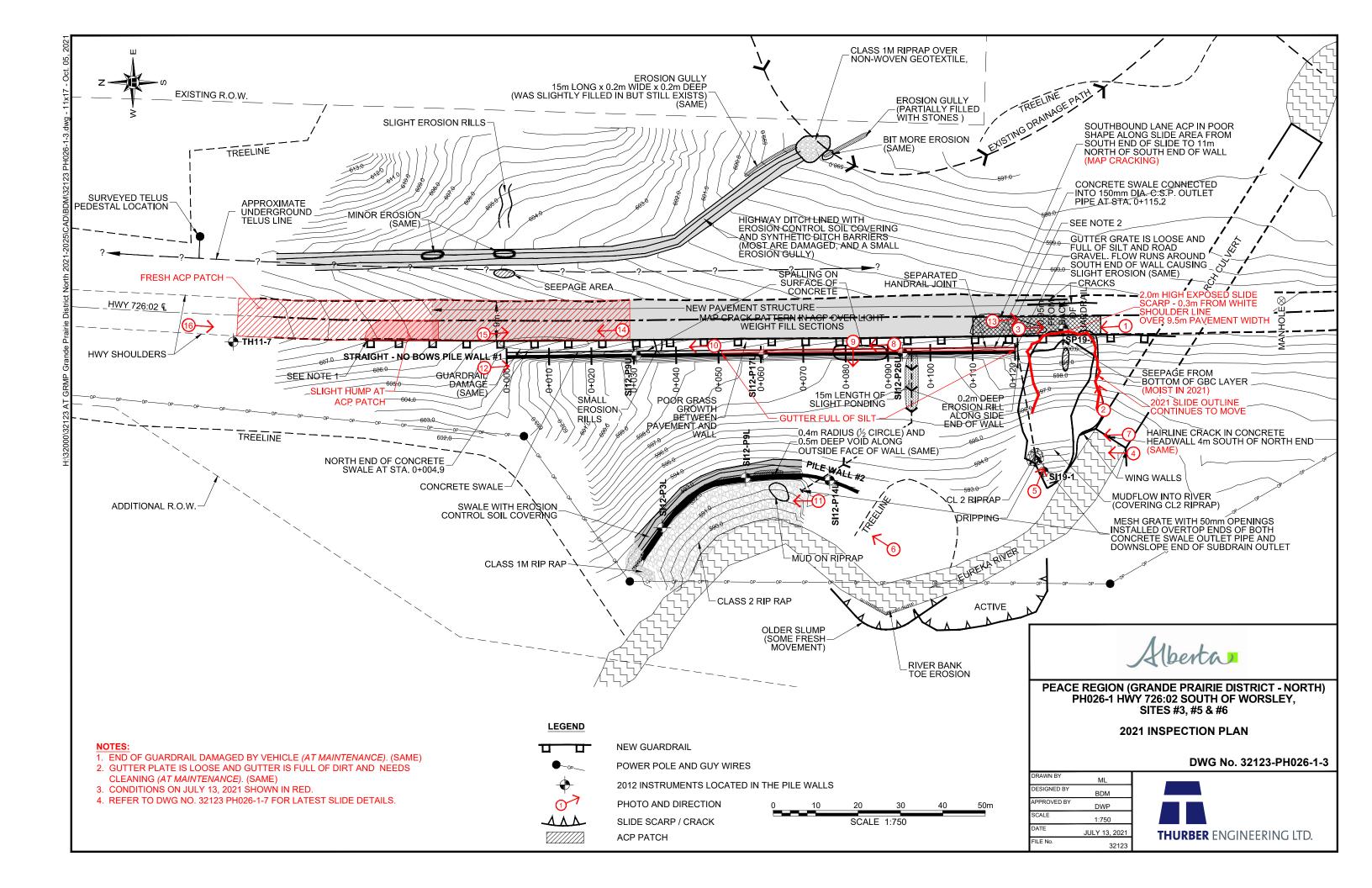
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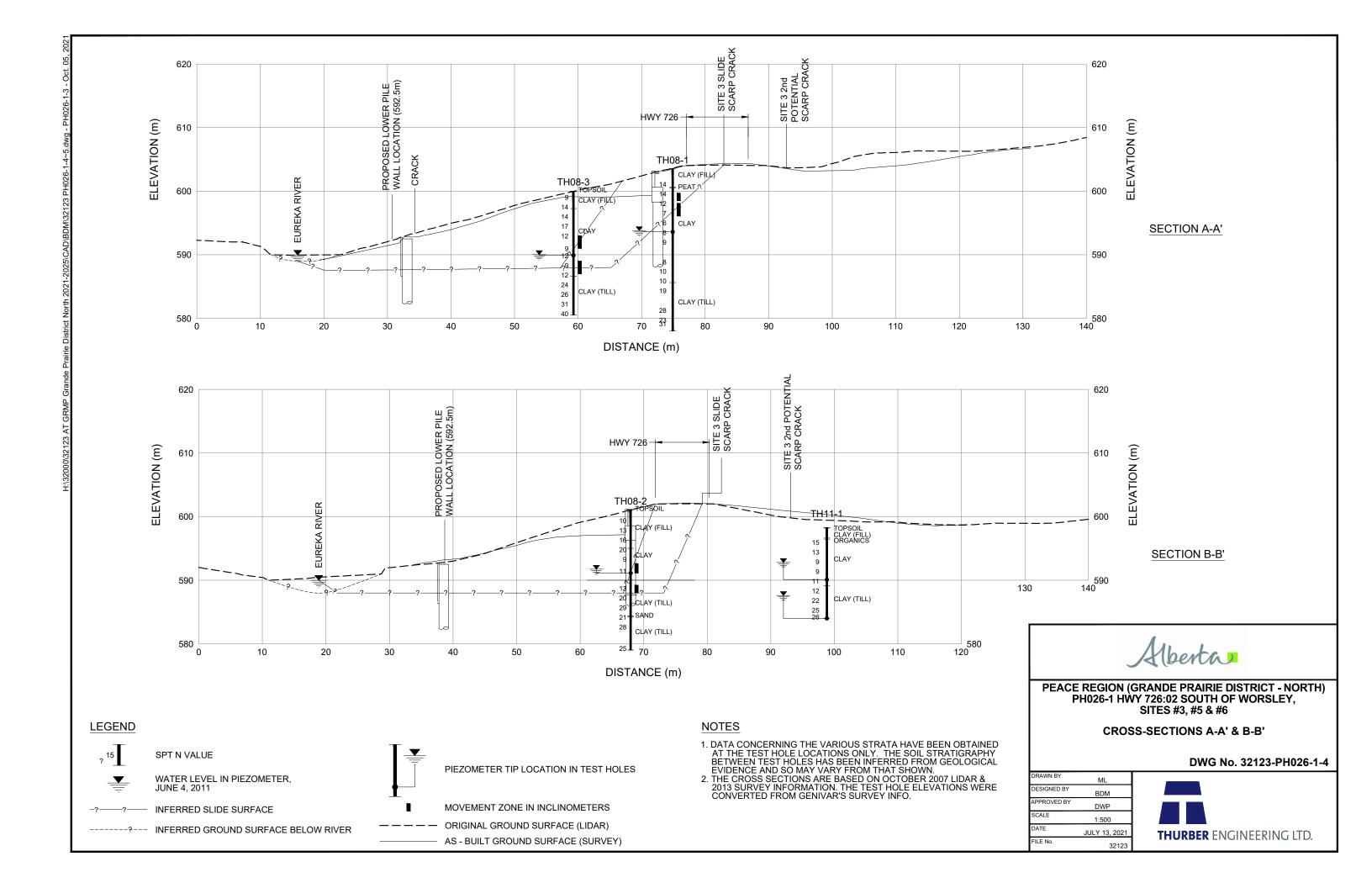
7. INDEPENDENT JUDGEMENTS OF CLIENT

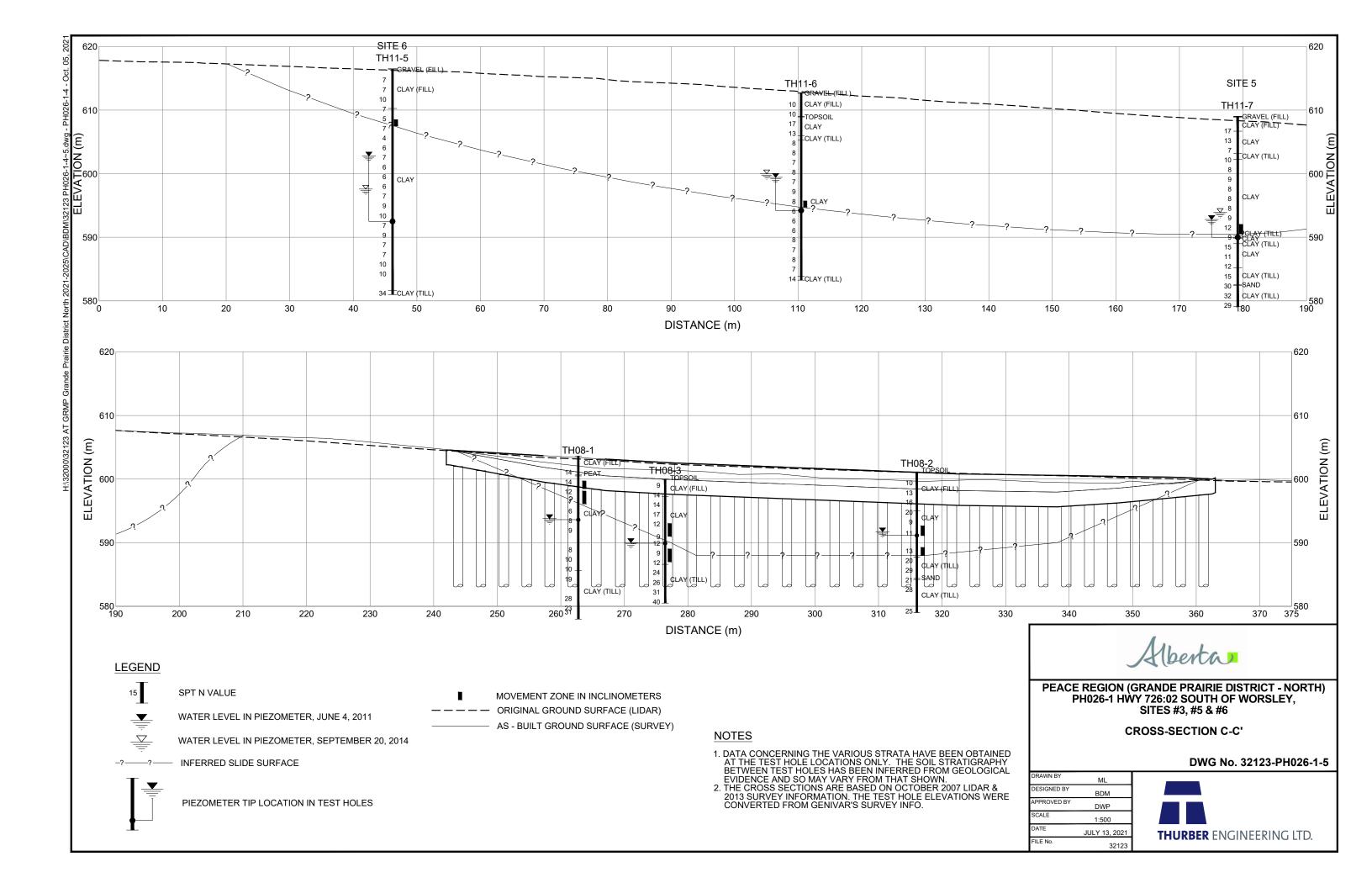
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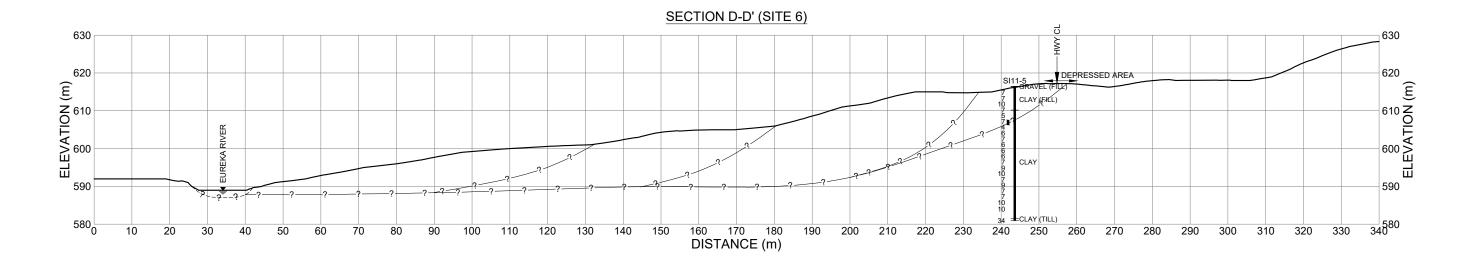












LEGEND



SPT N VALUE

-?----? INFERRED SLIDE SURFACE

--?----?--- INFERRED GROUND SURFACE BELOW RIVER

MOVEMENT ZONE IN INCLINOMETERS

NOTES

1. DATA CONCERNING THE VARIOUS STRATA HAVE BEEN OBTAINED AT THE TEST HOLE LOCATIONS ONLY. THE SOIL STRATIGRAPHY BETWEEN TEST HOLES HAS BEEN INFERRED FROM GEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE AND SO MAY VARY FROM THAT SHOWN.

2. THE CROSS SECTIONS ARE BASED ON OCTOBER 2007 LIDAR INFORMATION. THE ELEVATIONS OF TH98-1 AND TH98-2 WERE NOT KNOWN, AND WERE ESTIMATED TO MATCH LIDAR ELEVATIONS.



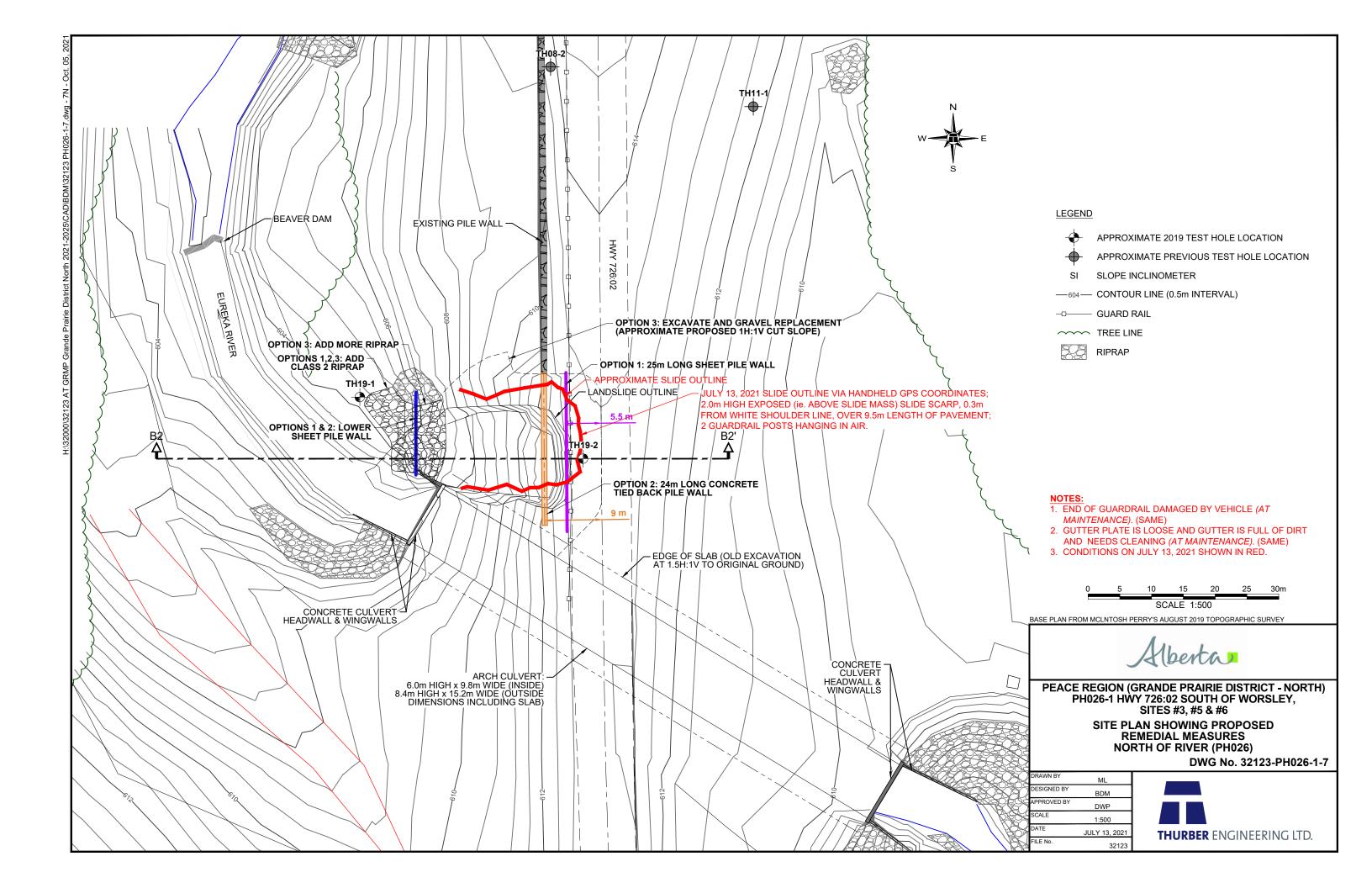
PEACE REGION (GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT - NORTH)
PH026-1 HWY 726:02 SOUTH OF WORSELY, SITES #3, #5 & #6

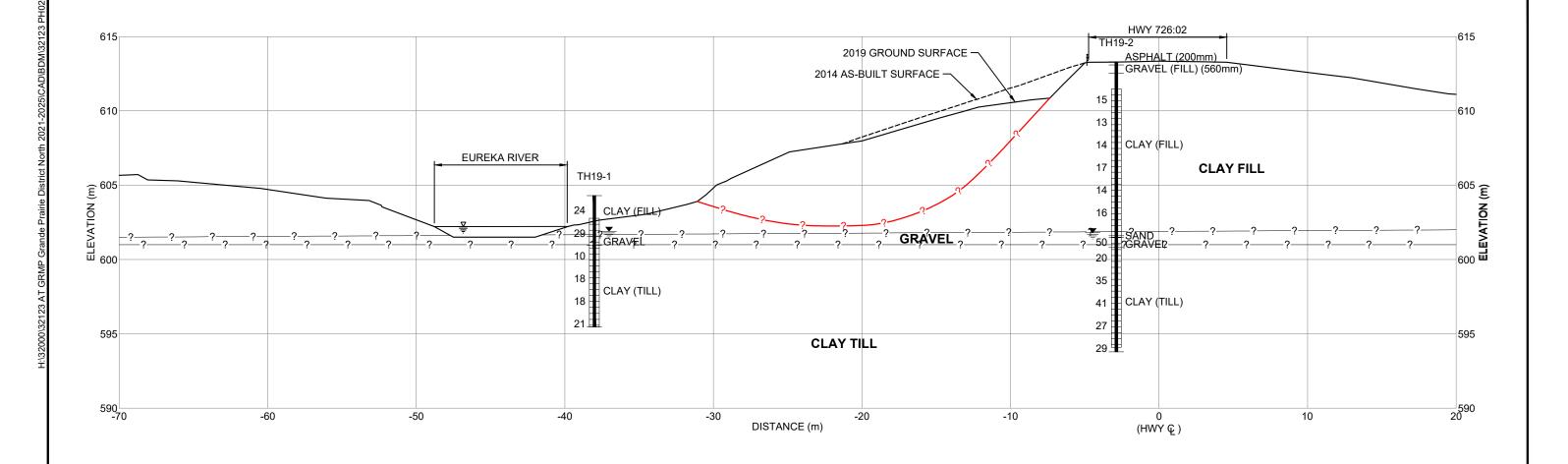
CROSS - SECTION D - D'

DWG No. 32123-PH026-1-6

DRAWN BY	ML	
DESIGNED BY	BDM	
APPROVED BY	DWP	
SCALE	1:1000	
DATE	JULY 13, 2021	
FILE No.	32123	









15 SPT N VALUE

WATER LEVEL IN PIEZOMETER

STANDPIPE PIEZOMETER SCREENED INTERVAL

---- ASSUMED MOVEMENT ZONE

NOTE

OLD ELEVATIONS CORRELATED TO THIS SURVEY GRID BY +12.5m



PEACE REGION (GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT - NORTH)
PH026-1 HWY 726:02 SOUTH OF WORSLEY,
SITES #3, #5 & #6

CROSS-SECTION B2-B2' (PH026)

DWG No. 32123-PH026-1-8

DRAWN BY	ML		
DESIGNED BY	BDM		
APPROVED BY	DWP		
SCALE	1:250		
DATE	JULY 13, 2021		
FILE No.	32123		







Photo 1 – Looking north along the highway south of the upper pile wall at the landslide that developed at Site #3.



Photo 2 – Looking east at the body and scarp face of the slide at the south end of the pile wall at Site 3.





Photo 3 – Looking S. along the hwy at the slide scarp that has extended into the SB shoulder to within 0.3 m of the white line beyond the south end of the upper pile wall at Site #3.



Photo 4 – Looking north at the toe of the slide that pushed debris against and around the arch culvert outlet headwall.





Photo 5 – Drone photo of the slide south of the pile wall at Site #3.



Photo 6 – Drone photo of the upper and lower pile walls at Site 3.





Photo 7 – Close up of a hairline crack in the arch culvert outlet headwall (4 m south of the north end).



Photo 8 – Looking north along the top of the pile wall from near the south end. Note the gutter is filled with sand/debris, and the separated handrail.





Photo 9 – Looking at the spalling concrete on the top of the upper pile wall of Site 3.



Photo 10 – Looking north along the area between the top of the pile wall and the guardrail. Note the infilled gutter.





Photo 11 – Looking northwest at the lower pile wall area, Site 3.



Photo 12 - Looking south along the upper pile wall and downslope embankment at Site 3.





Photo 13 – Looking south along the highway at the map cracking adjacent to the south end of the pile wall and the slide further south.



Photo 14 – Looking north along the highway at a fresh patch adjacent to the north end of the pile wall at Site 3. Note the hump near the north end of the Lightweight Fill.





Photo 15 - Looking south along the highway from the hump in the fresh patch near the north end of the pile wall at Site 3.



Photo 16 - Looking south along the highway at the distorted pavement and fresh patch further south, near the north end of Site 3/south end of Site 5. Note the broken Impact Attenuator on the north end of the guardrail.





Photo 17 - Looking north along the highway at the additional subsidence in the NBDL and shoulder at Site 5.



Photo 18 - Looking north along the east highway ditch and backslope slump at Site 5.





Photo 19 - Looking south along the highway at the fatigued pavement along the north end of Site 5. Note the settled east ditch and scarp that crosses the highway.

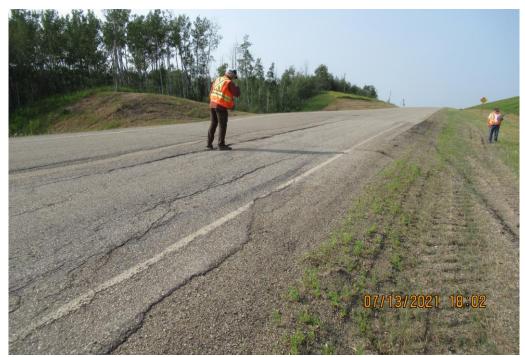


Photo 20 - Looking northwest from the east highway edge at where the slide scarp crosses the highway at the north end of Site 6.