

July 15, 2025

Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors Main Floor, Provincial Building 9621 – 96th Avenue Peace River, Alberta T8S 1T4

Robert Senior Construction Technologist

Dear Mr. Senior:

CON0022166 Peace Region (Grande Prairie District – South) GRMP Instrumentation Monitoring Site GP038-I and -II; H40:38, km 25.831 and km 25.426 Slides 1.6 km and 2.0 km North of Kakwa River Bridge (North Little Prairie Creek Slide) Section C – 2025 Spring Readings

1 GENERAL

One slope inclinometer (SI) (SI17-1) and one pneumatic piezometer (PN) (PN17-3B) were read at the GP038-I site in the Peace Region (Grande Prairie District – South) (GP South Region) on June 3, 2025, by Evan Hergott, E.I.T. and Min Hou, E.I.T. of Klohn Crippen Berger Ltd. (KCB). These instruments were read as part of the GP South Region Geohazard Risk Management Program (GRMP). The GP038-I and GP038-II sites are located on Hwy 40:38, km 25.831 and 25.426, respectively. The approximate site coordinates of GP038-I and GP038-II are 6033163 N, 398377 E and 6032912 N, 398677 E, respectively (UTM Zone 11, NAD 83). A site plan is presented on Figure 1.

The geohazard at the GP038-I and GP038-II sites consists of two repaired landslides in the highway embankment fill, approximately 2.0 km and 1.6 km north of the Kakwa River bridge, respectively. Construction to remediate the slides (described below) was completed in 2018. Minor post-construction pavement cracking and settlement have been observed at both sites.

Previous remedial actions completed at the sites between 2017 and 2018 include a culvert extension and construction of a toe berm at the GP038-I site, and reconstruction of the GP038-II site with compacted granular fill along with a sheet pile wall installed to isolate work from the creek. An overlay was completed between 2017 and 2020, and pavement cracks were sealed in 2022.

In February 2017, a geotechnical site investigation, which included instrument installation, was conducted by a previous consultant. The encountered stratigraphy was as follows: fill, overlying clay till, and overlying clay.



1.1 Instrumentation

KCB has been reading the instruments at this site since the spring of 2021. Instrumentation installation details are tabulated in Table 1.1. Instrument locations are shown on Figure 1. Any instruments not included in Table 1.1 or shown on Figure 1 are assumed to be inoperable and are not presented or discussed herein.

In 2017, three SIs and eight piezometers were installed at the sites by a previous consultant to monitor movement and groundwater conditions, respectively. Some of these instruments have since become inoperable (e.g., sheared or damaged), as detailed in Table 1.1 (see table notes). Recommendations for replacement are made in Section 3.

During the spring 2025 readings, PN17-1A and PN17-2A/B were found to be inoperable (appeared to have been chewed off to ground surface) and could not be repaired. The instruments will not be read again. As discussed in Section 3, no replacement instruments are recommended at this time.

The instruments are protected with above-ground casing protectors.

SI17-1 was read using the same metric RST Digital MEMS Inclinometer System that has been used to read the SI since KCB took over the readings in June 2021. The operable PN was read using an RST C109 pneumatic piezometer readout box.

Table 1.1 Instrumentation Installation Details¹

Site	Instrument	Instrument	Date	UTM Coordinates(m)		Ground Surface	Stick	Depth	Condition	
Site	Туре	ID	Installed	Northing Easting		Elevation (m)	Up (m)	(mbgs ²)	Condition	
	CI	SI17-1	Feb. 8, 2017	6033126	398415	844.7	0.8	18.0	Operable	
	SI	SI17-2	Feb. 8, 2017		Inoperable³					
		SI17-3	Feb. 8, 2017		Inoperable³					
	PN	PN17-1A	Feb. 4, 2017	6033126	398415	844.7	N/A	7.2	Inoperable ⁸	
GP038-1		PN17-1B					N/A	15.9	Inoperable ⁴	
		PN17-2A	Fab 4 2017	6022402	398444	842.3	N/A	7.6	Inoperable ⁸	
		PN17-2B	Feb. 4, 2017	6033103			N/A	12.6	Inoperable ⁸	
		PN17-3A	Feb. 3, 2017	6033083	398433	839.3	N/A	8.9	Inoperable ⁵	
		PN17-3B		6033083			N/A	13.9	Operable	
GP038 II	<u>sp</u>	SP17-1	Feb. 3, 2017	6032882	398720	821.8	1.0	10.4	Inoperable [₹]	
	31°	SP17-2	Feb. 2, 2017	6032873	398710	822.3	1.0	14.9	Inoperable 6	

Notes:

¹ Instrument installation details were taken from reports and data files prepared or provided by the previous consultant(s) or TEC. Ground surface elevations were not provided for the SIs, so the ground surface elevation from the adjacent instruments/piezometer tips were used if available. Instrument coordinates and stick ups (where applicable) were confirmed by KCB using a handheld GPS (accuracy of ± 5 m) and tape measure, respectively.

² Meters below ground surface (mbgs). Bottom reading depth for SIs, and tip or screen depth for piezometers.

³ SI17-2 and SI17-3 have sheared at an approximate depth of 12.2 m and 11.0 m below ground surface, respectively. Instruments last read in June 2017.

⁴ PN17-1B was inoperable (readings would not stabilize or near tip elevation) between the spring 2017 and spring 2018 readings. Instrument last read in April 2017.

⁵ PN17-3A was inoperable (readings would not stabilize) during the spring 2018 and fall 2018 readings. Instrument last read in October 2017.

⁶SP17-02 was inoperable (destroyed) during the fall 2017 readings. Instrument last read in June 2017.

⁷ SP17-1 was inoperable (appeared to have been struck by a vehicle) during the spring 2024 readings and could not be repaired. Instrument last read in lune 2023.

⁸ PN17-1A and PN17-2A/B were inoperable (appeared to have been chewed off to ground surface) during the spring 2025 readings and could not be repaired. Instruments last read in May 2024.

2 INTERPRETATION

2.1 General

For SI17-I, the cumulative displacement, incremental displacement, and displacement-time data was plotted in the A-direction (i.e., the direction of the A0-groove) and the X-direction (i.e., the direction of maximum movement obtained at a skew angle from the A0-grooves). SI17-1 has a skew angle of 348°, measured clockwise from the direction of the A0-grooves.

For the operable PN, 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.

The SI and piezometer 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. The SI data plots presented herein include data for readings taken with both the previous consultants' and KCB's SI reading equipment.

2.2 Zones of Movement

Discrete movement (i.e., occurring on a defined failure plane) is being recorded in SI17-1 from an approximate depth of 10.0 m to 12.5 m below ground surface (approximately elevation 832.2 m to 834.7 m) and possibly from 15.0 m to 17.0 m (approximately elevation 827.7 m to 829.7 m). The upper and lower zones of movement are occurring in the clay till and the underlying clay foundation units, respectively. Shallow distributed movement is also being recorded in the fill from an approximate depth of 2.5 m below ground surface to ground surface (approximately elevation 842.2 m to 844.7 m).

Table 2.1 Slope Inclinometer Reading Summary

	Site Instrument ID	Date				Ground	Donth of	Direction of	Movement (mm)		Rate of Movement (mm/year)		
Site		Initialized	Previous Maximum Cumulative Movement Recorded	Previous Reading	Most Recent Reading	Ground Surface Elevation (m)	Depth of Movement (mbgs¹)	Movement, Skew Angle ²	Maximum Cumulative	Incremental Since Previous Maximum Cumulative	Previous Maximum	Most Recent Reading	Change from Previous Reading
GP038-I	SI17-1	Feb. 8, 2017	Oct. 10, 2019	May 22 2024	Jun. 03, 2025	844.7	10.0 – 12.5	X-Direction, 348°	28.6	-1.3	29.3	-0.1	-0.5
	3117-1		Jun. 25, 2020	May 23, 2024			15.0 – 17.0	X-Direction, 348°	2.3	-1.5	5.8	-0.4	-0.1

Notes:

Table 2.2 Pneumatic Piezometer Reading Summary

Cito	Instrument ID	Carial No.	Date			Cround Surface Flouration (ms)	Tin Donth (mbgs1)	Water Level			
Site	Instrument ID	Serial No.	Installed	Previous Reading	Most Recent Reading	Ground Surface Elevation (m)	Tip Deptil (mbgs-)	Previous Reading (mbgs ¹)	Most Recent Reading (mbgs ¹)	Change from Previous Reading (m)	
GP038-I	PN17-3B	37438	Feb. 03, 2017	May 23, 2024	Jun. 03, 2025	839.3	13.9	2.3	2.4	-0.1	

Notes:

¹ Meters below ground surface (mbgs).

² Skew angle of the X-direction measured clockwise from the A-direction. The azimuth of the A0-groove in the SI was measured by KCB with a magnetic compass in spring 2022.

¹ Meters below ground surface (mbgs).

2.3 Interpretation of Monitoring Results

2.3.1 GP038-I Site

Between June 2017 and June 2018, an increased rate of movement (approximately 29 mm/year) was recorded in the upper monitoring zone of SI17-1, likely in response to toe berm construction in 2017 and 2018. Since June 2018, the rate of movement has decreased and is currently less than 1 mm/year indicating the toe berm is stabilizing the highway embankment. The rate of movement recorded in the lower monitoring zone of SI17-1 has been slow (less than 1 mm/year) since installation and is within the accuracy of the SI reading equipment.

Before several piezometers (e.g., PN17-1A and PN17-2A/B) became inoperable (last reading spring 2024), the water levels/porewater pressures recorded in the instruments were relatively high and had been near to above ground surface since mid-2017, indicating the presence of a high groundwater table. The relatively high-water level recorded in the piezometers could result in embankment instability and explain the pavement cracking observed at this site. However, the cracking, in combination with the observed pavement dip and settlement, could also be due to settlement of the recently placed fill. Reactivation of the slide could occur due to continued erosion (less likely) or increases in water level. However, the large toe berm should reduce the potential for reactivation of the slide.

Since mid-2018, an approximate 2.3 m decrease has been recorded in PN-3B, which is installed below the toe berm in a clay foundation unit. The recorded decrease is most likely due to porewater pressures dissipating following toe berm construction between 2017/2018.

2.3.2 GP038-II Site

Before SP17-1 became inoperable (last reading spring 2023), the water levels recorded in the instrument were relatively high and had been near ground surface since mid-2018, indicating the presence of a high groundwater table. The pavement cracking and small dip observed at this site may be unrelated to the relatively high-water level recorded in SP17-1, being more likely due to minor settlement of recently placed fill.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Future Work

The site should continue to be inspected by the Maintenance Contract Inspector (MCI). However, based on the performance of the repair and low rates of recorded movement, TEC could consider making the site a monitoring only site and excluding it from the GP South GRMP Section B inspections or removing the site completely from the list of active GRMP sites. If site conditions were to deteriorate, the site could always be returned to the list of active GRMP sites and/or inspected again as part of a Section B inspection or Section D call-out inspection.

Unless the site is removed from the list of active GRMP sites, all operable instruments should continue to be read once per year (spring). Spring readings should be completed after late-May or early-June, due to the risk of water inside the instrument casings being frozen earlier in the year.

3.2 Instrument Installs, Repairs, and Maintenance

Above-ground-steel-casing protectors for some instruments are close to pavement edge. These are potential roadside hazards to motorists who go off the highway. These should be removed if the instrument(s) are inoperable or replaced with flush-mounted casing protectors if instruments are operable.

Since SP17-1 was the last operable piezometer at the GP038-II site and PN17-3B is the last operable piezometer at the GP038-I site, replacement piezometers could be considered. However, since mid-2018, relatively steady water levels had been recorded in the piezometers and instrument replacements are likely not needed unless site conditions visually change from previous observations (e.g., the slide or area of known high groundwater table appears to be expanding and impacting the highway).

4 CLOSING

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 Peace Region (Grande Prairie District – South) Geohazard Risk Management Program (Contract No. CON0022166), and it may not be relied upon by any other party without KCB's written consent.

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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.

Yours truly,

KLOHN CRIPPEN BERGER LTD.

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Min Dost

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ATTACHMENTS

Figure

Appendix I Instrumentation Plots

Site GP038-I and -II; H40:38, km 25.831 and 25.426 Slides 1.6 km and 2.0 km North of Kakwa River Bridge Section C – 2025 Spring Readings

FIGURE



Legend

- Pneumatic Piezometer (PN)
- Slope Inclinometer (SI)
- Standpipe Piezometer (SP)
- >--< Culvert
- Sheet Pile Wall



- . GRID ZONE: UTM ZONE 11N
- . IMAGE SOURCE: 2025 MICROSOFT CORPORATION 2025 MAXAR CNES, DISTRIBUTION AIRBUS DS
- I. STRIKETHROUGH INDICATES INSTRUMENT IS INOPERABLE. INSTRUMENT LOCATIONS APPROXIMATE. INSTRUMENTS INOPERABLE PRIOR TO 2021 MAY NOT BE SHOWN.



Klohn Crippen Berger

PEACE REGION (GRANDE PRAIRIE DISTRICT-SOUTH)
GEOHAZARD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Site Plan

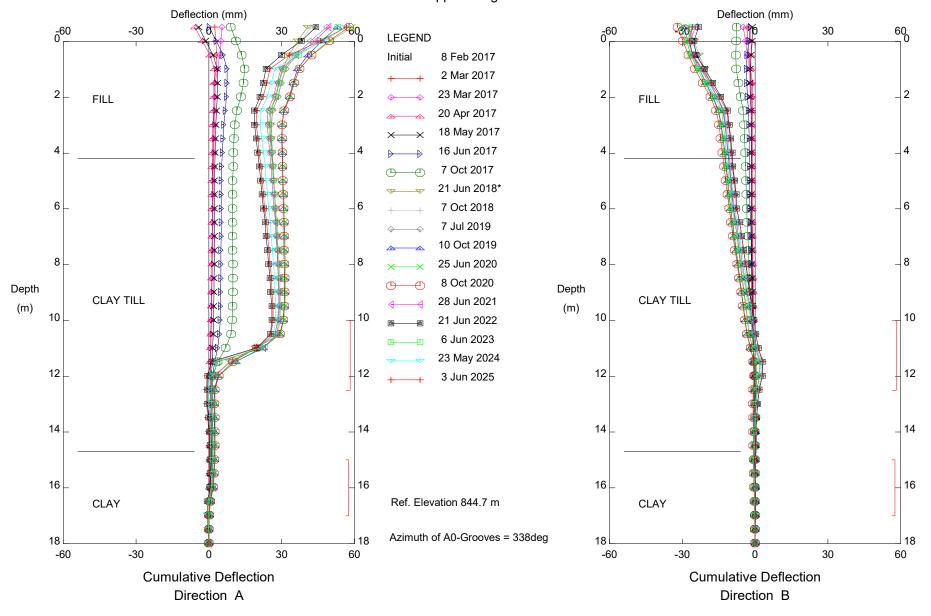
GP038-I and -II - Slides 1.6 km and 2.0 km North of Kakwa River Bridge Hwy 40:38, km 25.831

PROJECT No. A05116A01

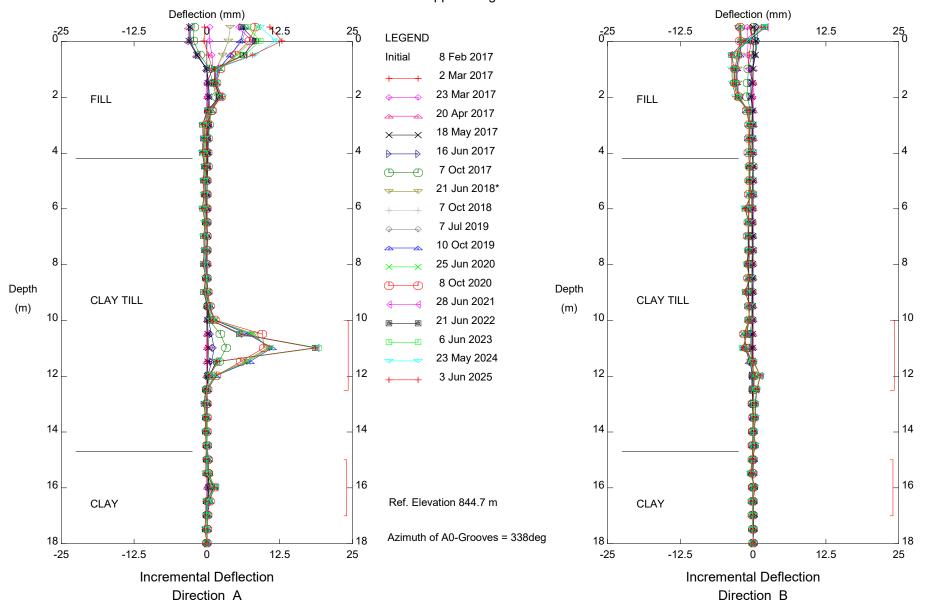
Site GP038-I and -II; H40:38, km 25.831 and 25.426 Slides 1.6 km and 2.0 km North of Kakwa River Bridge Section C – 2025 Spring Readings

APPENDIX I

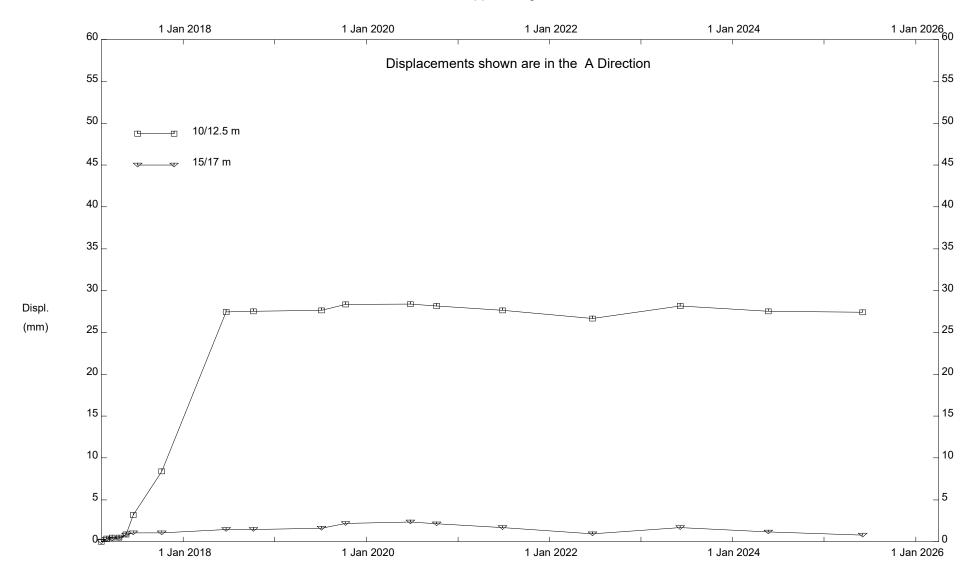
Instrumentation Plots



GP038-I; H40:38, Kakwa River Bridge, Inclinometer SI17-1
Alberta Transportation

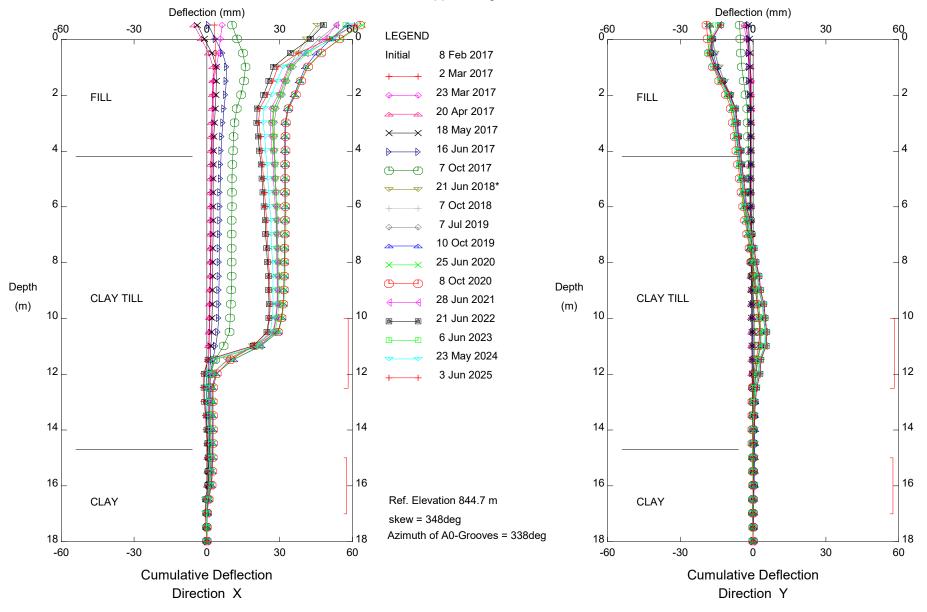


GP038-I; H40:38, Kakwa River Bridge, Inclinometer SI17-1
Alberta Transportation

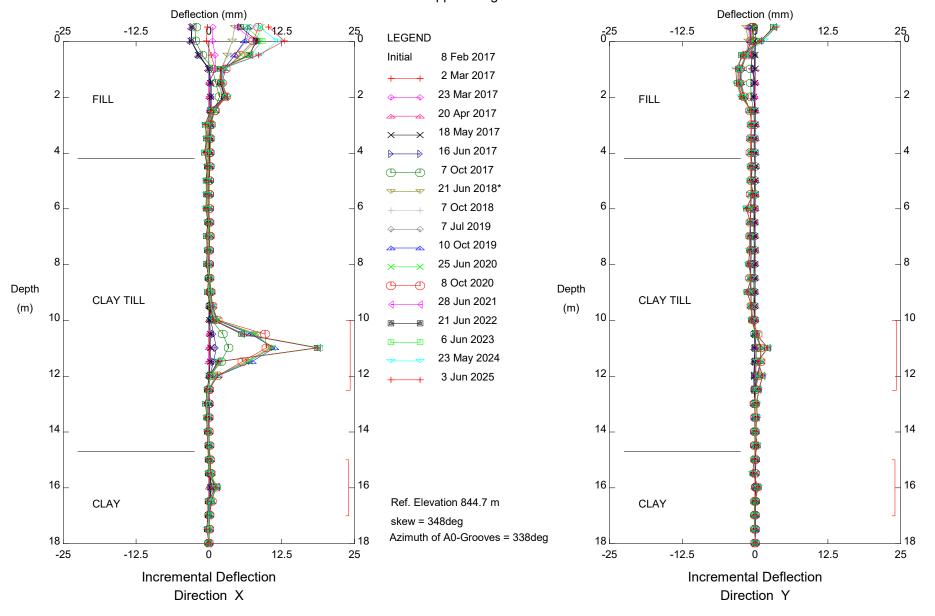


GP038-I; H40:38, Kakwa River Bridge, Inclinometer SI17-1

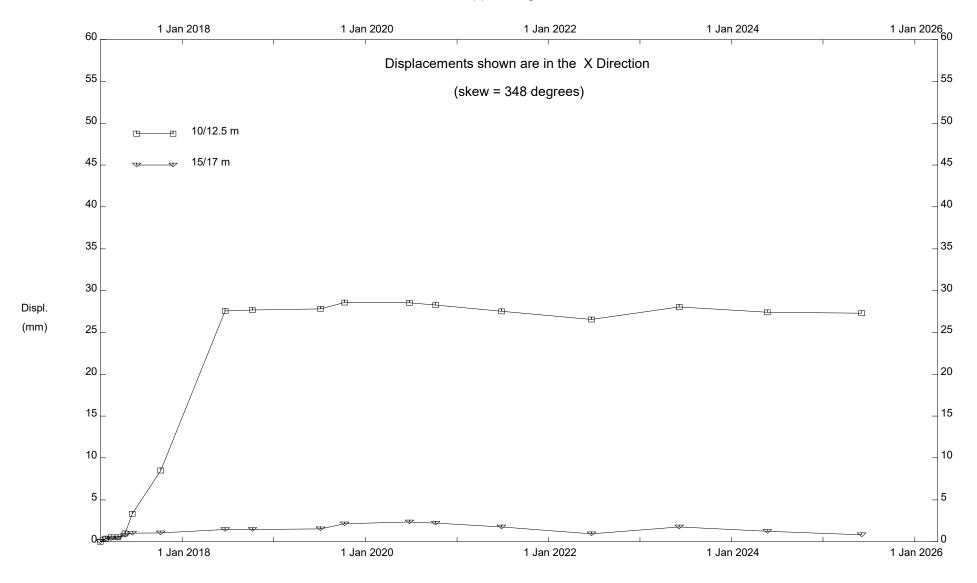
Alberta Transportation



GP038-I; H40:38, Kakwa River Bridge, Inclinometer SI17-1
Alberta Transportation

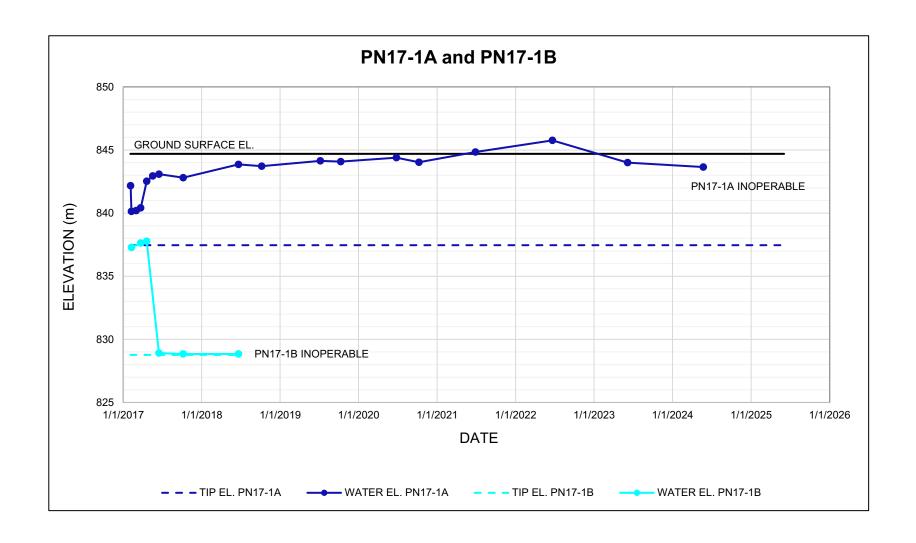


GP038-I; H40:38, Kakwa River Bridge, Inclinometer SI17-1
Alberta Transportation



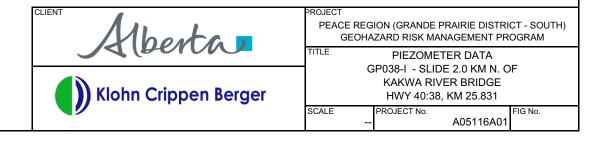
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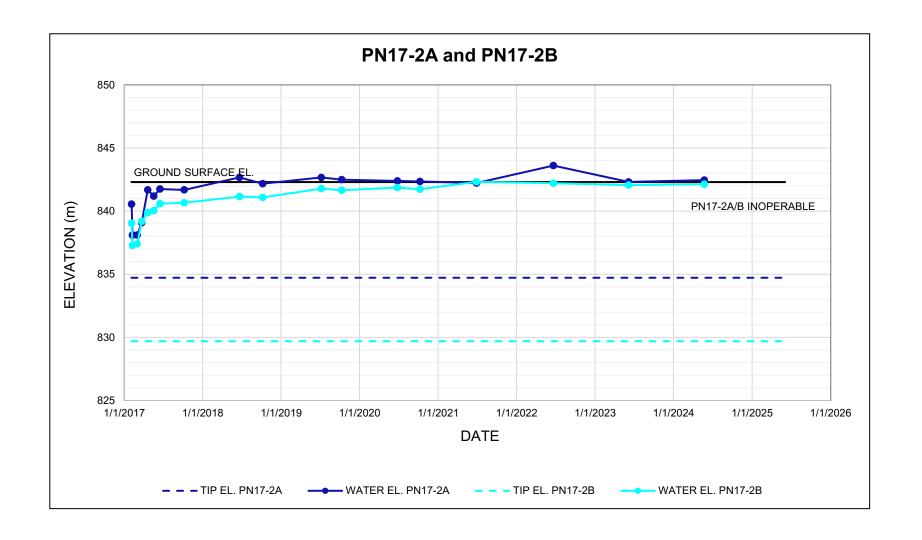
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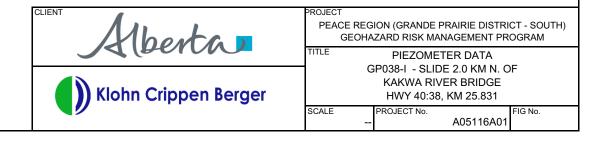
1. PIEZOMETER DATA OBTAINED BEFORE JUNE 28, 2021, PROVIDED TO KLOHN CRIPPEN BERGER LTD. BY ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS ON JUNE 25, 2021.

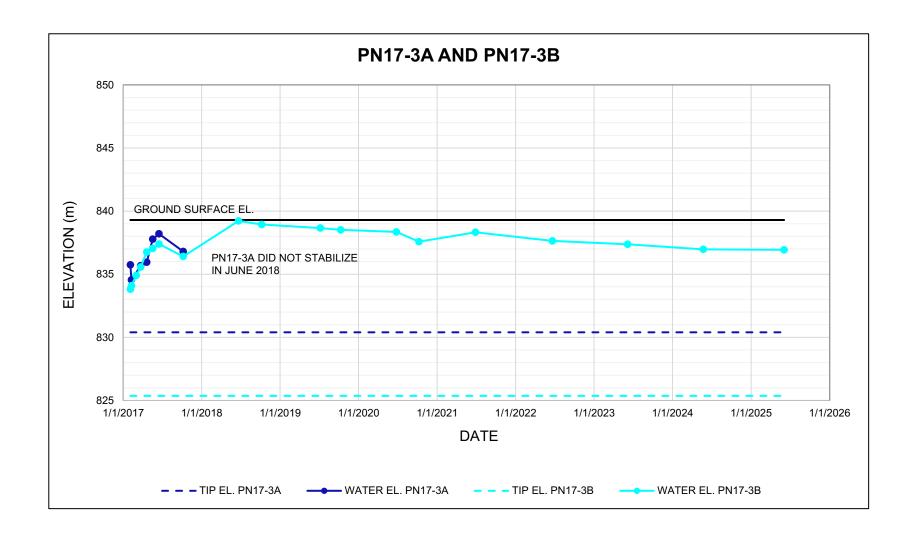




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