

PEACE REGION – SWAN HILLS GEOHAZARD RISK ASSESSMENT SITE INSPECTION FORM



SITE NUMBER SH 28	SITE NAME Little Smoky Valley	HIGHWAY & KM HWY 744:02	PREVIOUS INSPECTION DATE	INSPECTION DATE 25 June 2015		
			03 July 2014			
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	NAD 83 UTM	PREVIOUS RISK ASSESSMENT				
LSD 13-18-76-22 W5M	COORDINATES	PF: 8*	CF: 3	TOTAL: 24		
	N6160721	CURRENT RISK ASSESSMENT				
	E474084	PF: 8*	CF: 3	TOTAL: 24		
		*There are currently no slope movement instruments installed at this site and it is difficult to estimate rates of movement.				

SUMMARY OF SITE INSTRUMENTATION:

No Instruments

LAST READING DATE: N/A

INSPECTED BY:

Amec Foster Wheeler: Curtis Treen, Dustin McLachlan, Vincent Huang

Alberta Transportation: Ed Szmata, Rishi Adhikari

Vincent Huang, E.I.T. Geotechnical Engineer



Dustin J. McLachlan, P.Eng. Senior Geological Engineer

Reviewed by:

Curtis R. Treen, M.Eng., P.Eng. Senior Associate Geotechnical Engineer

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure Permit Number: P 04546

PRIMARY SITE ISSUES:

The primary issue at this site is a failure on the embankment (4 to 5 m high) and natural slope that has historically been encroaching on the highway. The oval-shaped failure occurred in Fall 2004. Currently, the failure headscarp is 3.0 m from the highway (asphalt) and there appears to have been no change between the 2014 and 2015 inspections.

Based on a discussion with AT staff and local Amec Foster Wheeler experience, it is possible that the feature is failed uncontrolled fill material that has been saturated and subsequently failed on the natural grade. The backslope ditch is wet and it is possible there is seepage from the backslope side, under the highway and into the failure area.

Note: Refer to previous inspection reports for further details

APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:

Oval shaped failure approximately 45 m wide (along highway) and about 35m in length (perpendicular to highway). The headscarp is up to 3 m in height, and currently 3 m from the road (5.1 m from the white line). The failure mass is estimated to be approximately 3 m deep at its deepest. The overall embankment slope is at ~19 degrees from horizontal in the area.

DATE OF ANY REMEDIAL ACTION:	
None.	

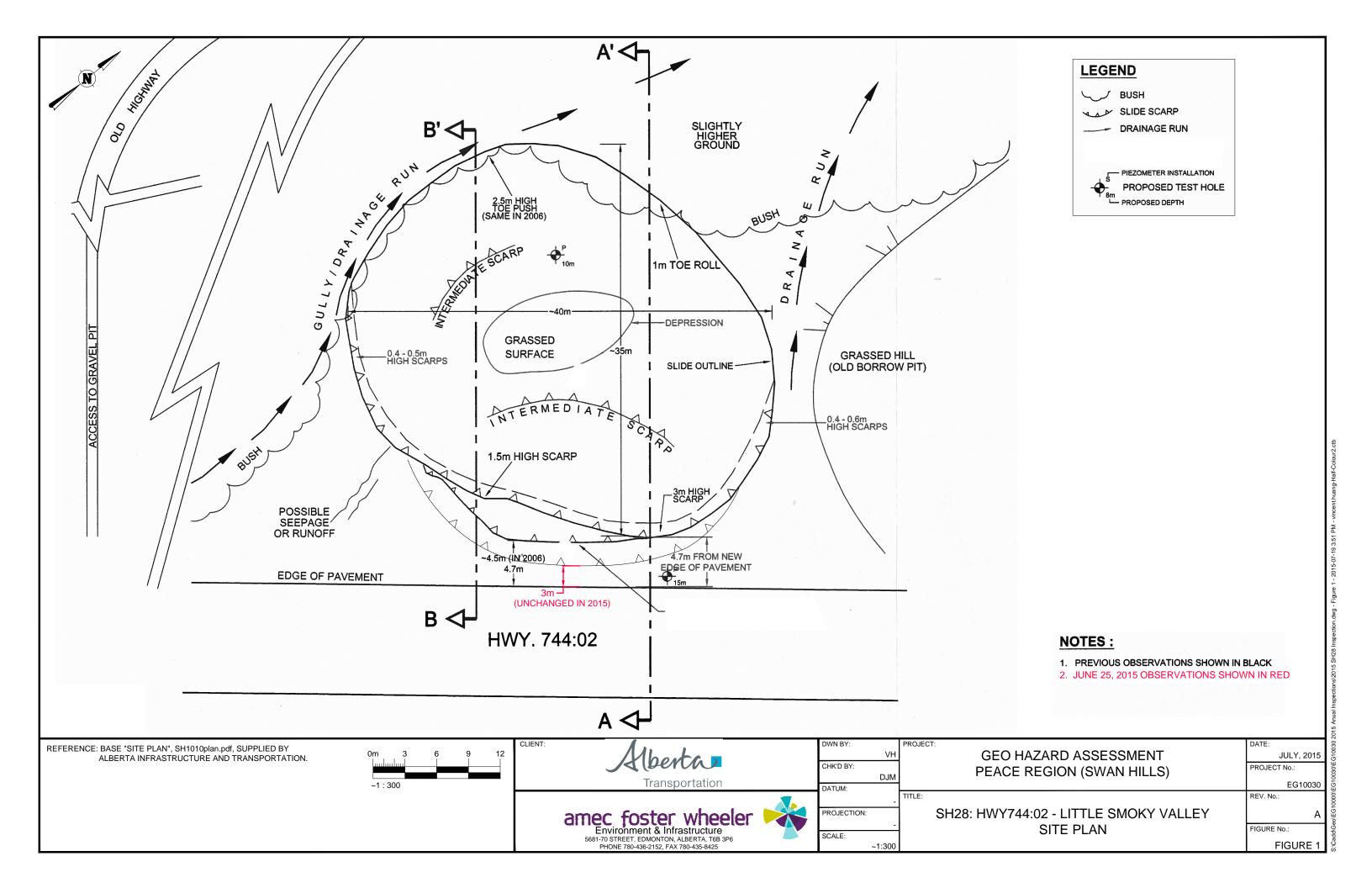
ITEM	CONDITION EXISTS		DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	NOTICABLE CHANGE FROM LAST INSPECTION		
	YES	NO	DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION		NO	See Comment
PAVEMENT DISTRESS		х			X	
SLOPE MOVEMENT	х		Oval shaped failure of possible saturated, uncontrolled fill. Headscarp of failure is ~3 m from the edge of the roadway.		x	
EROSION		х			Х	
SEEPAGE	х		Possible seepage from backslope ditch, under highway and into failure area.		х	

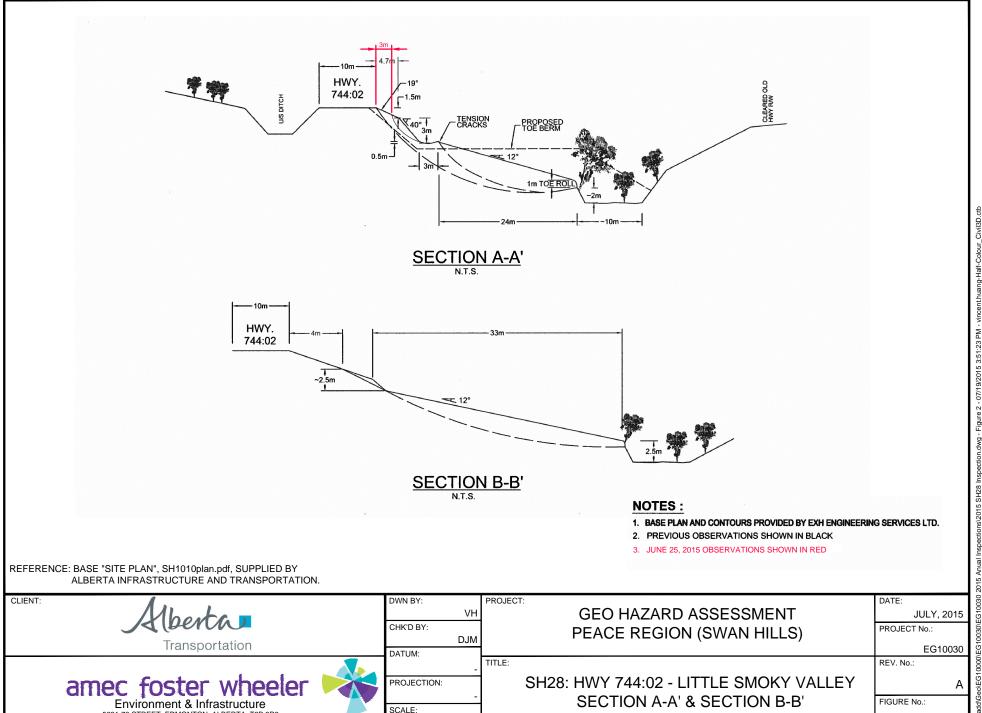
COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

There was no evidence of movement activity at the time of the 2015 inspection. Little to no retrogression has occurred since 2011. Vegetation has grown along the failure mass and scarps and is relatively mature (Photos 2 and 3).

The mechanism of failure is not known with certainty. It is possible that the feature is failed uncontrolled fill that has been saturated and failed on the natural grade.

A guard rail would be required along the roadway if the headscarp of the failure is within or retrogresses into the Clear Zone of the roadway. If retrogression is observed in the future, stabilization of the failure would be required to preserve the R/W and to mitigate further retrogression and encroachment towards the highway. Stabilization/remediation may include drainage improvements and slope flattening/buttressing. An investigation and possibly instrumentation would be required if remedial works were planned.





NOT TO SCALE

5681-70 STREET, EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T6B 3P6 PHONE 780-436-2152, FAX 780-435-8425

FIGURE 2



Photo 1: (looking south)

No indications of pavement distress or deformation were observed.



Photo 3: (looking northeast)

Backscarp is well vegetated and no signs of retrogression were visible.



Photo 2: (looking south)

Distance between the edge of the pavement and backscarp was unchanged from July 2014.

