Identification of Factors Controlling the Development of Subsidence Impacts Forecasting Methodology of the I-70 Alignment over Longwall Mining of the Tunnel Ridge Mine, Washington County, Pennsylvania

Final Report for Contract #4400018535, Work Order #PIT 016
26 February 2021

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On the Cover – Predicted horizontal strain patterns caused by potential longwall mining under I-70 throughout the extended study area. Excessive levels of horizontal strains have the potential to damage assets along the I-70 highway alignment in western Washington County, Pennsylvania. Values shown represent the magnitude of horizontal strain in 1/1000-in/in (Figure IIIb.8, Task 3 Report).

Acknowledgement

The project team would like to thank members of PennDOT’s staff, the administrators, engineers, scientists, geologists, and maintenance workers, for making this activity a rewarding experience for all those connected with it. In particular, we are grateful to Joseph Szczur and William Kovach, former and current District 12 Executives, for articulating the vision and need for the project. It was impressive to see how their staff prepared for the undermining of a major transportation artery and later brought this same section of highway back to normal operations. This was a large and complex effort and it came off in an admirable fashion. It is notable that these same individuals were always ready to search out answers for our inquiries. The one person we must personally recognize is Mr. Roy Painter, Geotechnical Engineer for District 12. Roy was our technical contact for this project and was invaluable to the project’s success.

A special recognition to Pat Brown of Earth Inc and Joe Brennsteiner of SPK Engineering for sharing laboratory and surveying results and for their counsel throughout the project. During the study, West Virginia Department of Highways, E.I. Robinson Engineering, and Alliance Natural Resource’s Tunnel Ridge Mine personnel, joined the project team with PennDOT and its contractors on a monthly basis to discuss important findings. These exchanges of information were beneficial for all parties.

There are many at the University of Pittsburgh that deserve special recognition. Both Dr. Radisav Vidic (Civil and Environmental Engineering Department Chair) and Ms. Amy Kapp (CEE Department Administrator) assisted with navigating this contract through the University’s administration. Mark Magalotti and Keith Johnson, Co-Directors of the Center for Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure (CSTI), identified this research idea and worked to secure support and funding from along with PennDOT’s central office staff, Teresa Swisher and Shelley Scott.

What was perhaps most special for the project team was their participation in a vibrant research community at the University of Pittsburgh. This community consisted of not only the project team members but also the faculty, staff, and student body within the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. In particular, two visiting graduate students, Jie Yang and Qin Xiangnan from the University of Mining and Technology-Beijing, China, were invaluable in their assistance to help initiate subsidence modeling efforts. Taylor DaCanal, a graduate student working on a related research project, as well as Ethan Fisher, an undergraduate researcher on this project, assisted with planning, field work, and data analysis. The three graduate students assigned to the project, Mingzhou Li, Emily Adelsohn, and Robert Winn (Max) epitomized hard work and collegial cooperation. They were the ones responsible for doing the most meticulous and important work. A special thanks goes to Julie Vandenbosche whose knowledge in cement and concrete systems helped the team focus on the highway pavement, revealing some of the most unique data from this study. Lastly but not least, the project team thanks Luis Vallejo whose deep understanding of soil mechanics was critical in fully grasping the distinctive behavior of embankments subjected to subsidence.

To all of these individuals and organizations, you have our thanks and gratitude.

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