This presentation will provide an overview of the development and application of Geotechnical Baseline Reports (GBRs) as a contract document to identify, allocate, and manage subsurface project risks. Ground related risks continue to dominate claims, cost escalation, and schedule delays on projects regardless of the contract delivery system. GBRs are an evolving approach to provide a contractual basis for the allocation of risk by defining site conditions that should be anticipated and included within the contractual obligations and cost for executing a project. Historically, GBRs were developed and applied for use in the tunnel and underground construction industry but are now being used as a risk allocation tool on surface transportation and infrastructure projects. Hence the differences, as well as similarities between underground and surface projects and how GDR’s are applied, will be discussed. The presentation will cover what a GBR is and what a GBR is not, and examples of baseline statements will be provided. How GBR’s integrate with other contract documents will be presented, and their use in resolving differing site condition claims. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of the use of GBRs in traditional contract delivery methods such as design bid build and alternative contract delivery models.

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