

# **Resilient Pavement Structures in Texas**

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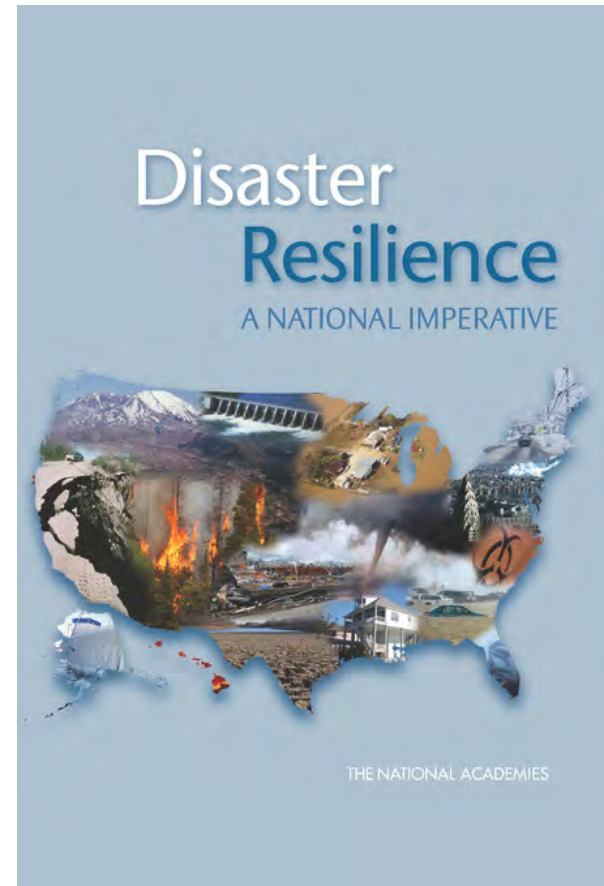
Lisa Lukefahr, P.E.

Texas Concrete Pavement Association

# What is Resilience?

## Definition 1.1

***Resilience: The ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, or more successfully adapt to actual or potential adverse events.***



# Traditional vs. Emerging Objectives for Pavements

- **Durability**
  - Does not fail or disintegrate prematurely
- **Resiliency**
  - Can handle traffic after flooding, icing, drought, fire events
  - Can handle unexpected traffic loads (overall levels or individual super-heavy loads)

# Pavement Performance

- Structural
  - Thickness Design
  - Withstand truck traffic loading and environmental effects without premature deterioration
- Functional
  - Ride Quality
  - Skid Resistance
  - Noise Reduction



## Pavement Performance

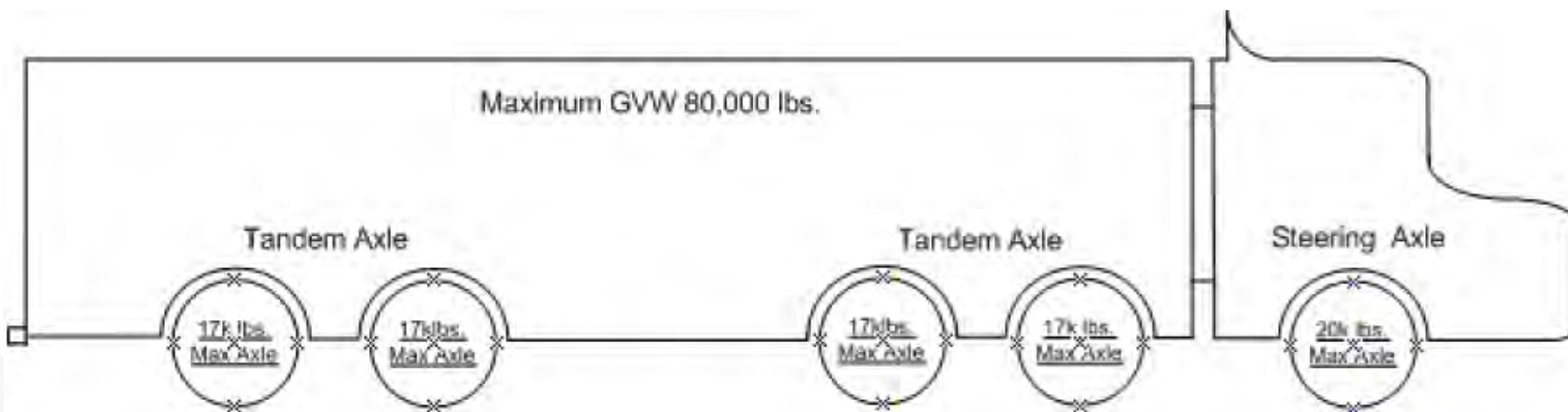
- Pavements are normally designed for a specific performance period (i.e., 30 year designs, overlay intervals of 10 to 15 years)
- However, *some* pavements in general have performed for much longer than we expected.

# **18 Kip Equivalent Single Axle Load (18KESAL)**

$D = 14, PSIf = 2.5$

# 80,000 lb Gross Vehicle Weight 18 Wheeler

- 34,000 lb Tandem Axle: 1.97 18KESAL
- 34,000 lb Tandem Axle: 1.97 18KESAL
- 12,000 lb Steering Axle: 0.17 18KESAL
- Total – 4.11 18KESAL



# **105,000 lb Gross Vehicle Weight**

## **18 Wheeler**

- 46,000 lb Tandem Axle: 7.40 18KESAL
- 46,000 lb Tandem Axle: 7.40 18KESAL
- 13,000 lb Steering Axle: 0.25 18KESAL
- Total – 15.05 18KESAL



# Continuously Reinforced Concrete Pavement (CRCP)

# CRCP

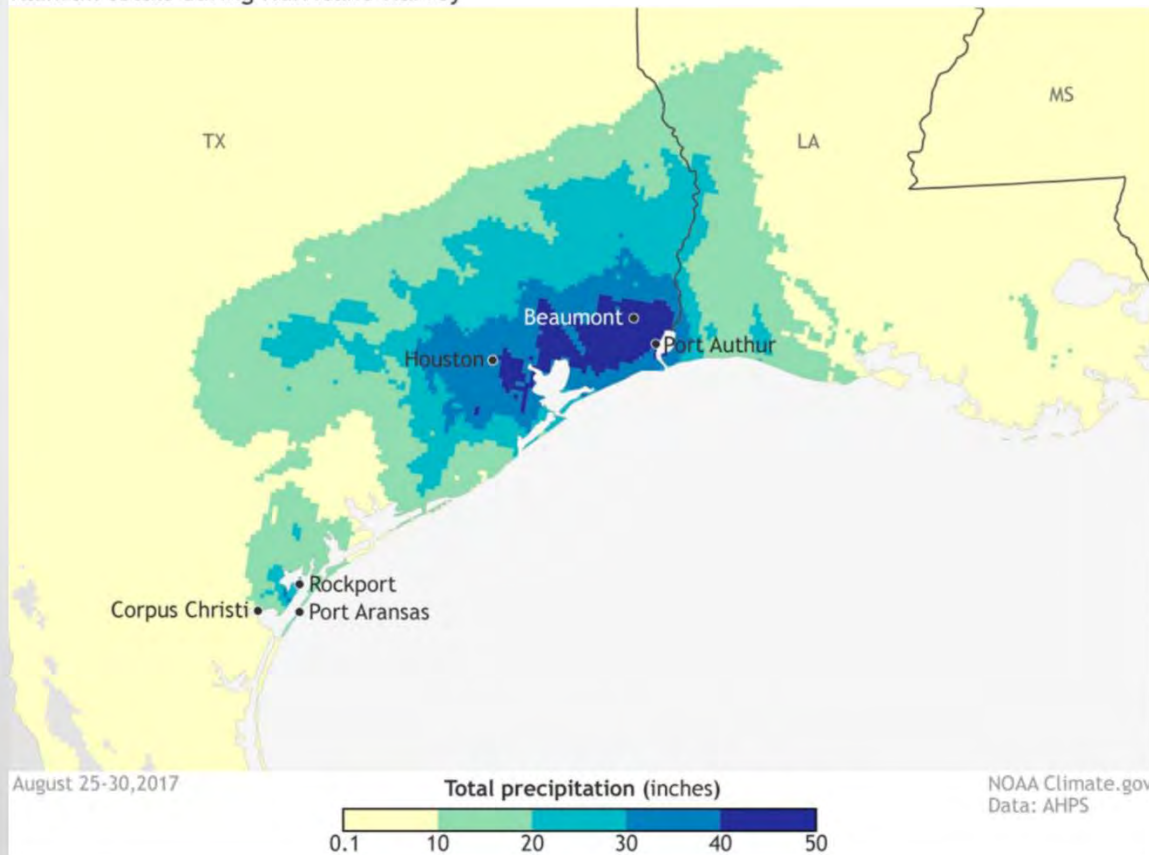
- No transverse joints except at bridge ends and construction joints
- Crack spacing varies from 3 feet to 15 feet
- TxDOT has used CRCP since the early 1950's





# Flooding During Hurricane Harvey

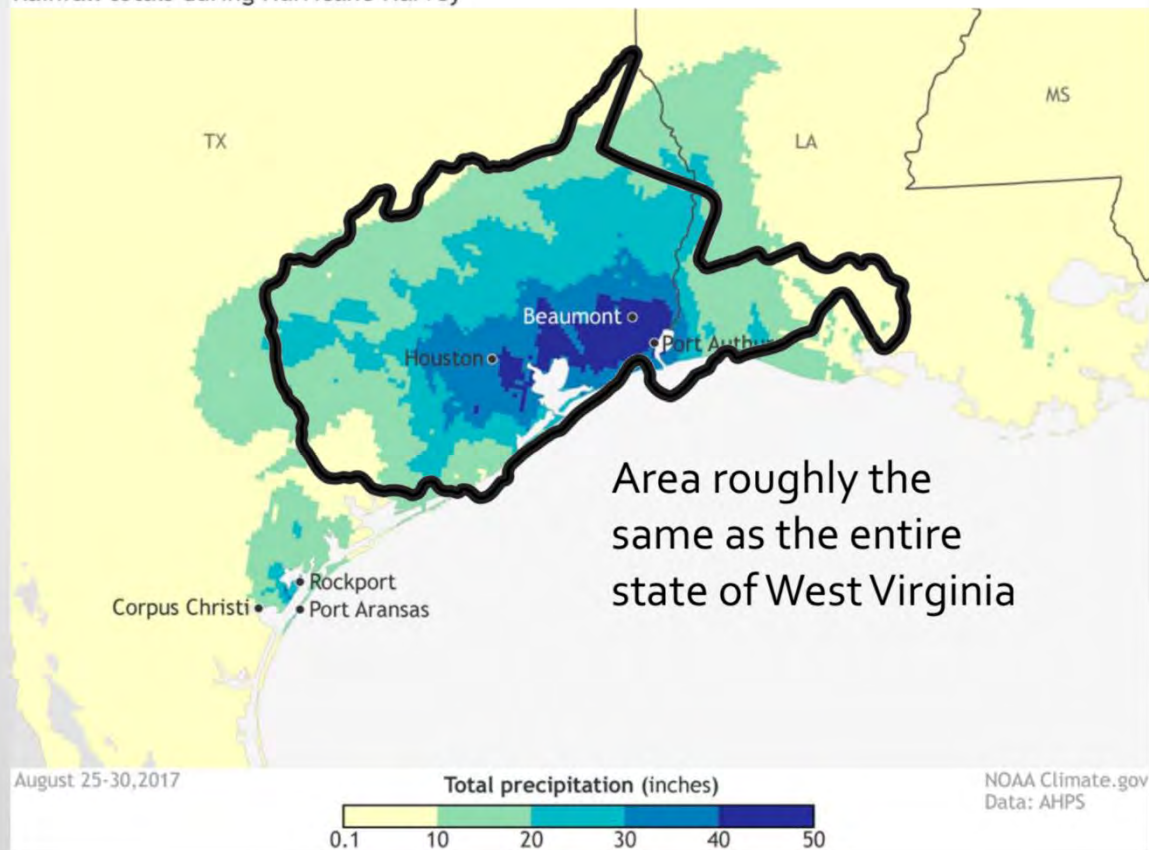
Rainfall totals during Hurricane Harvey





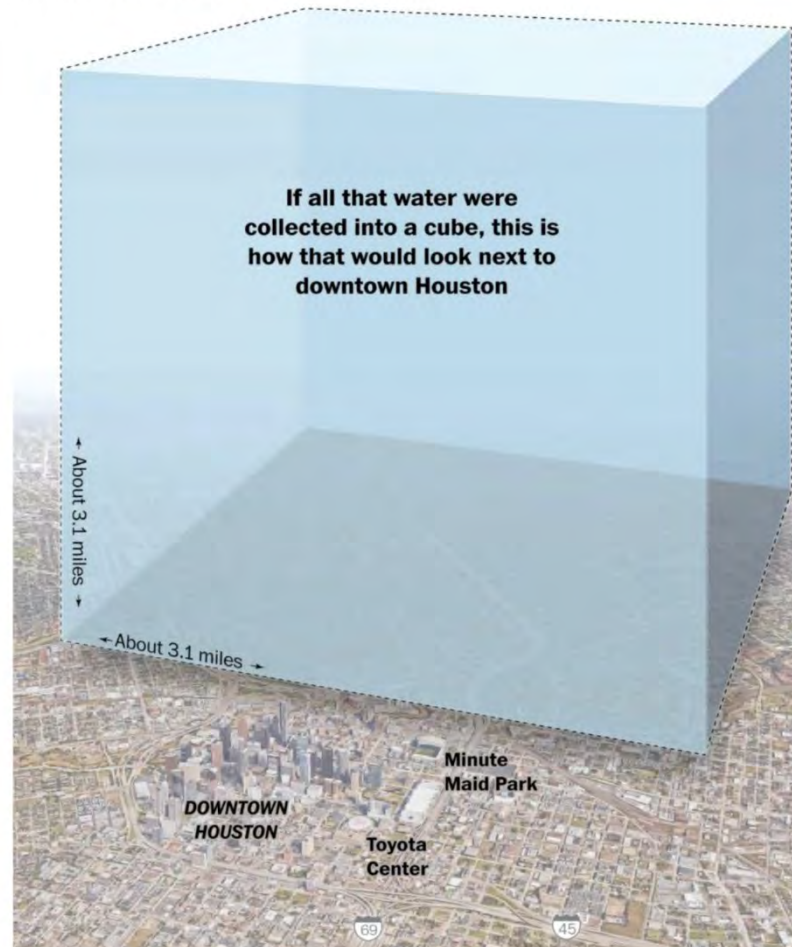
# Flooding During Hurricane Harvey

Rainfall totals during Hurricane Harvey



## What would 33 trillion gallons of water look like?

As of Saturday, Sep. 1, about 33 trillion gallons of rain have fallen along the Gulf of Mexico.



Sources: Ryan Maue, Capital Weather Gang, Google Earth

THE WASHINGTON POST

# **Air Coupled Ground Penetrating Radar (ACGPR)**

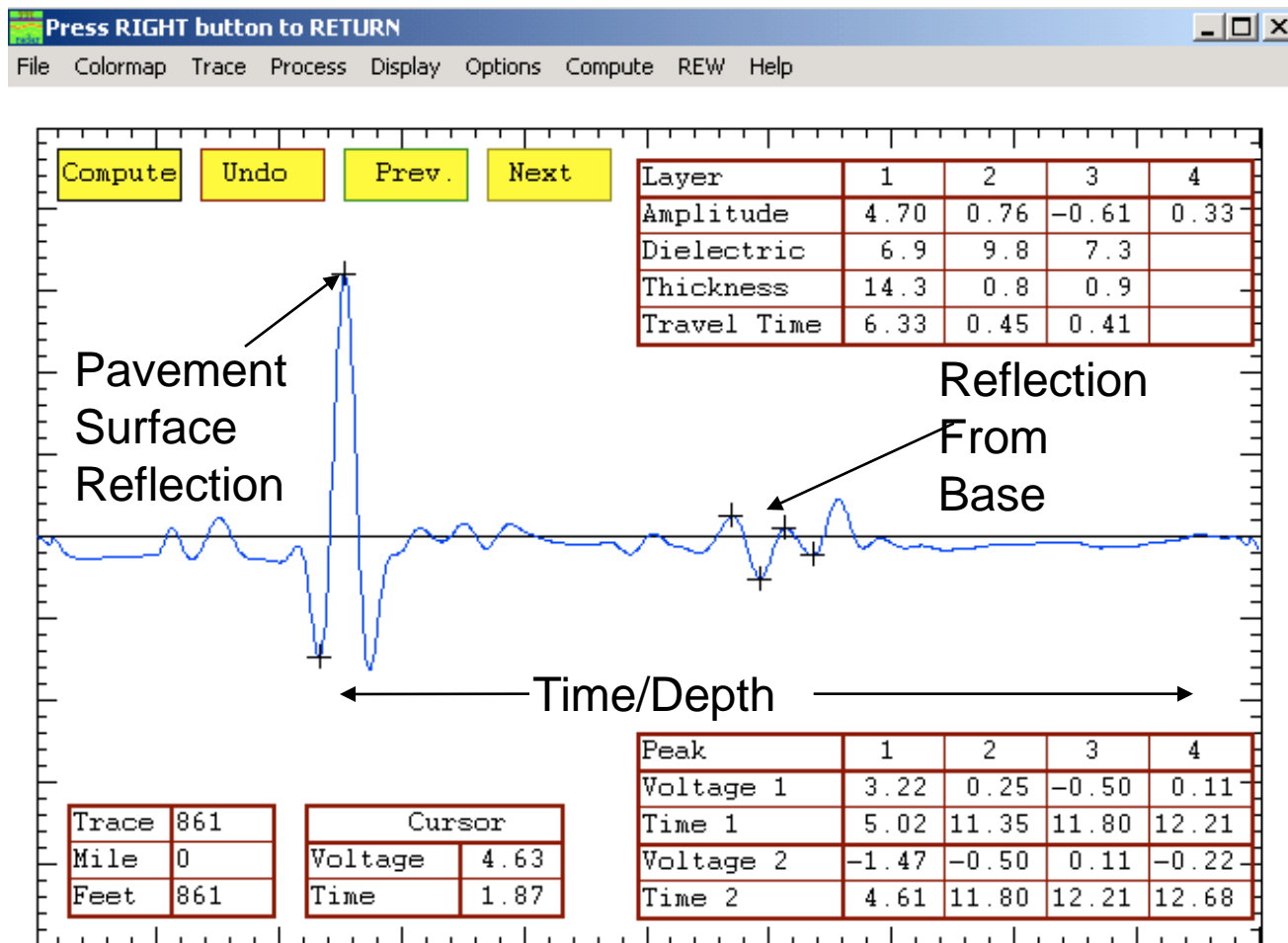
- Penetration Depth of two to three feet
- Data collected every foot
- Operates at highway speeds
- Measures dielectric properties of pavement layers
- Detects pavement layer thicknesses and defects





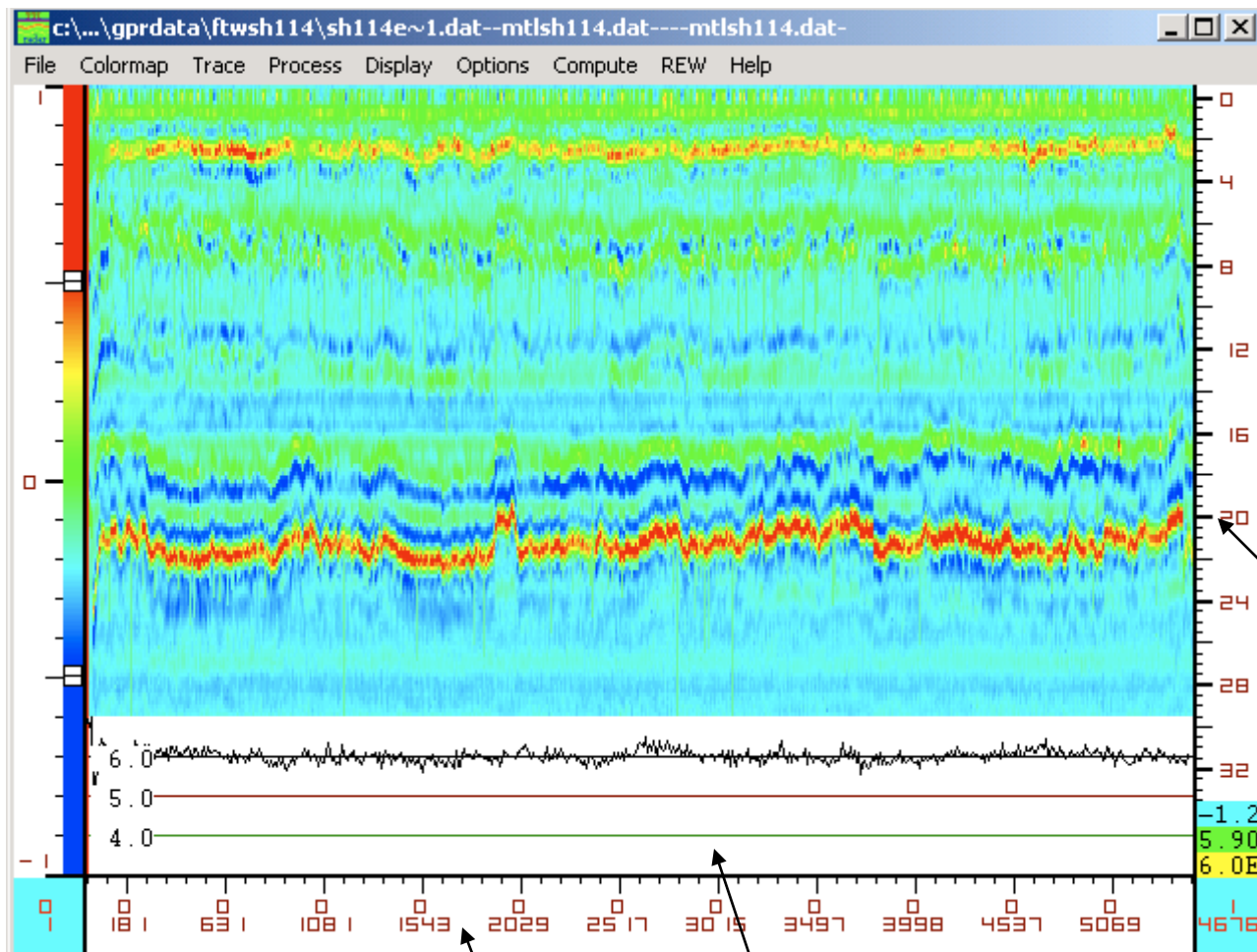
# Normal Dielectric Values from ACGPR

- Normal Aggregate ACP: 5.0 to 7.0
- Lightweight Aggregate ACP: 3.5 to 4.5
- Flexible (Granular) Base: 8.0 to 12.0
- Cement Treated Base: 6.0 to 8.0
- Concrete Pavement: 7.0 to 9.0
- Higher Values - Significant Moisture
- Lower Values - Excessive Air Voids
- Air: 1, Water: 81



# GPR – Single Trace

GPR Data:  
Pavement in  
Good  
Condition,  
No Defects



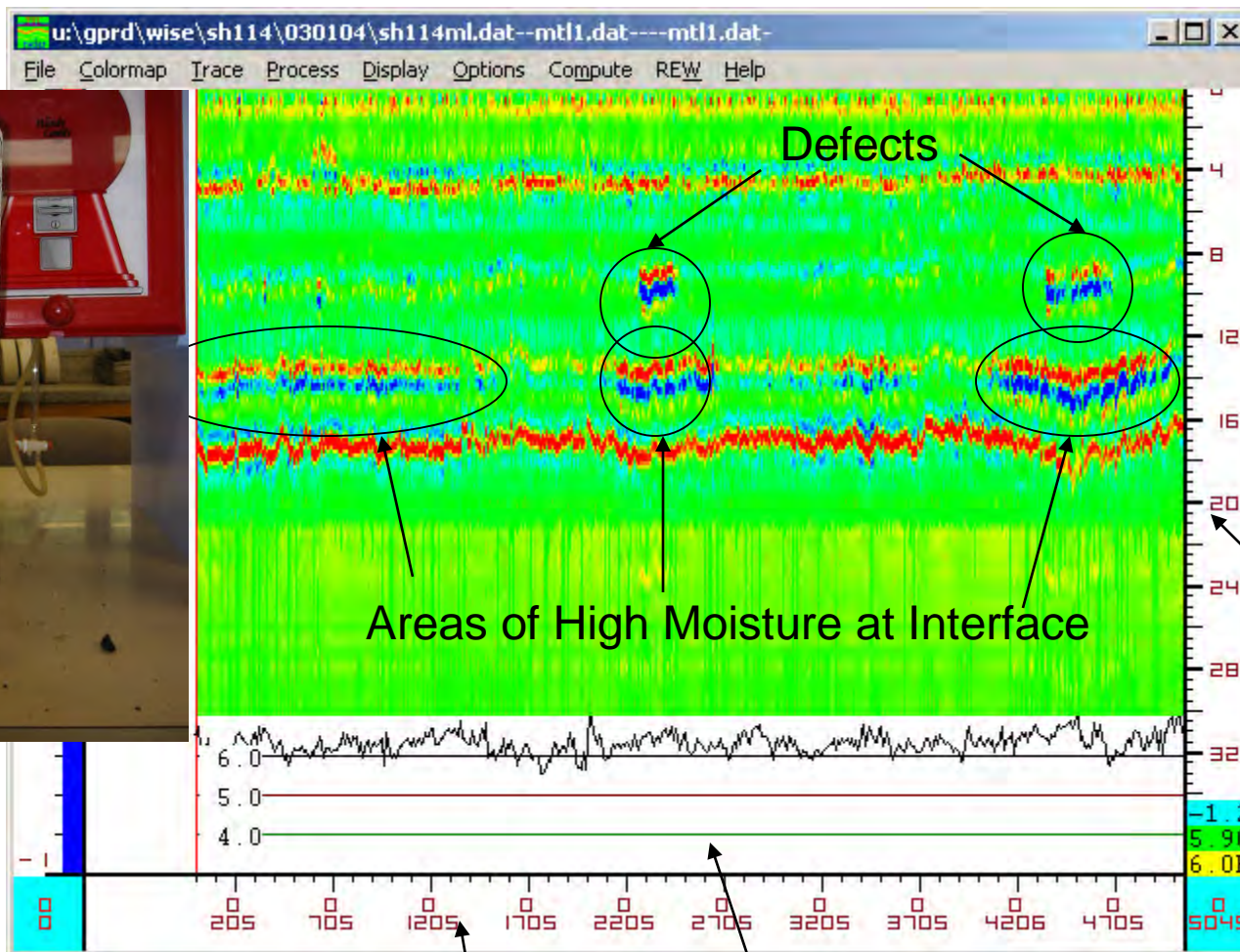
19 mm ACP

25 mm  
LSACP

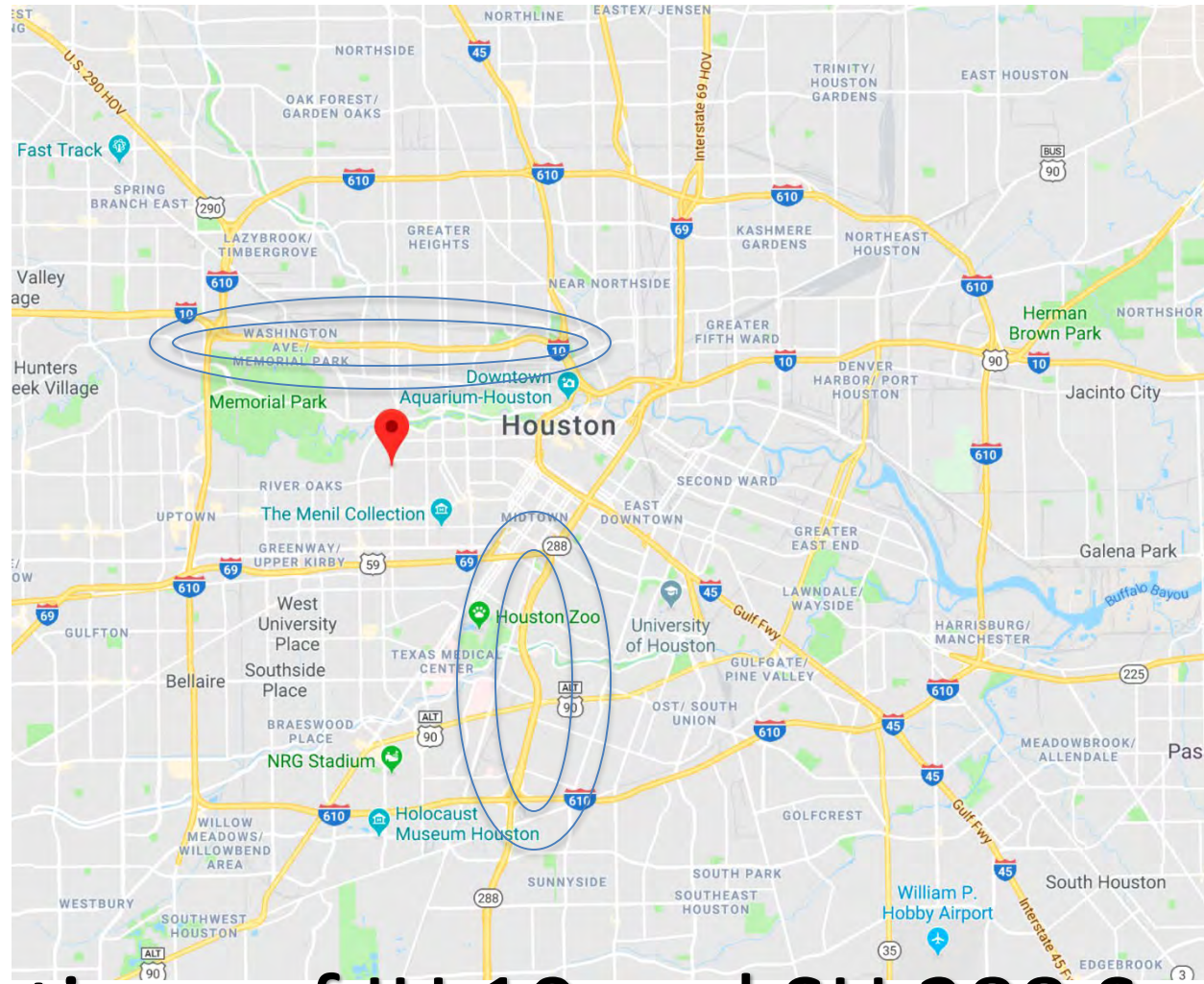
19 mm ACP

Thickness  
Scale,  
inches

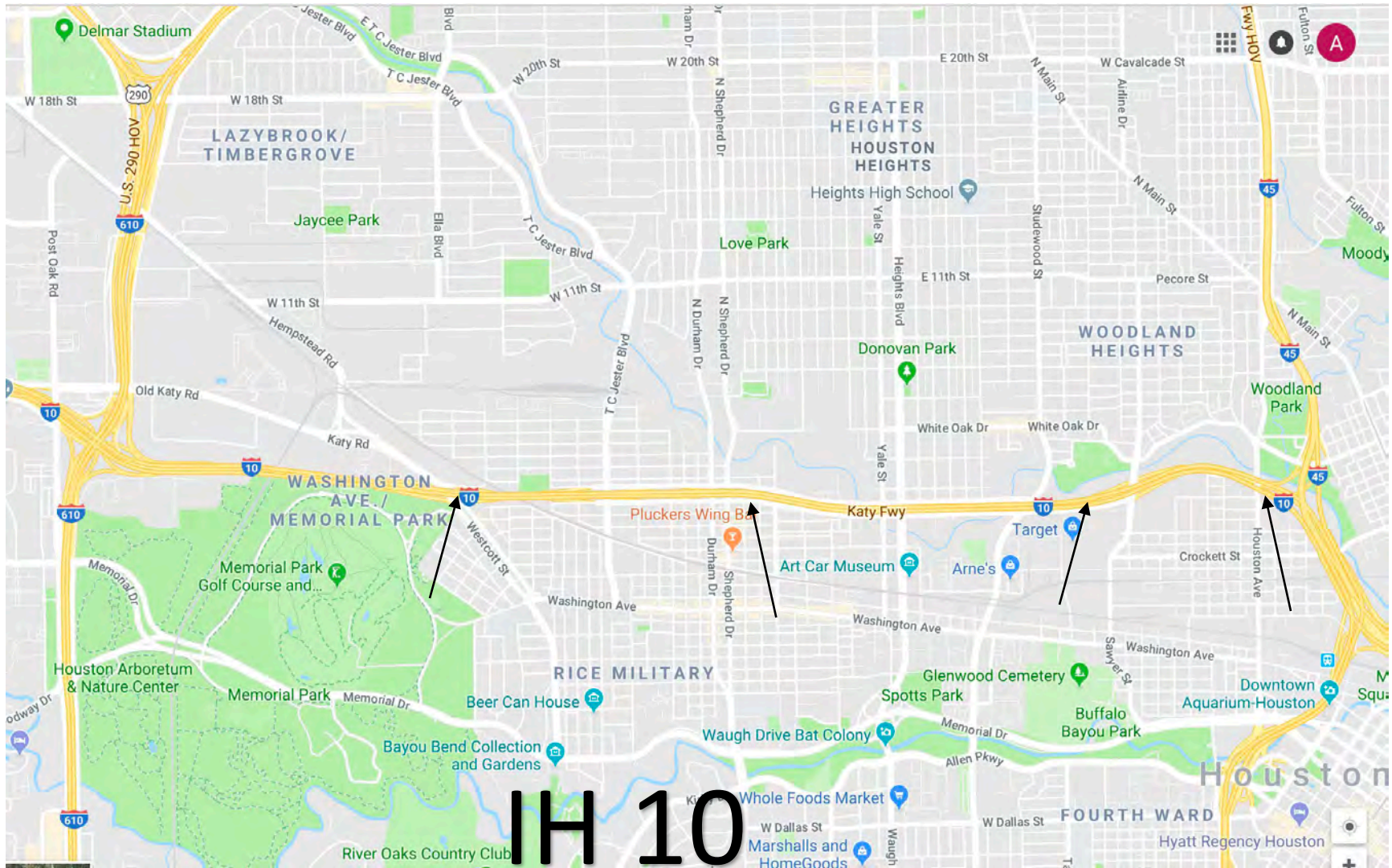
Distance Scale Dielectric Scale







## Locations of IH 10 and SH 288 Sections





## IH 10 from IH 610 to IH 45

- Reconstructed from October 1995 to October 2000
- Used recycled crushed concrete aggregate in the CRCP
- Designed for 43 million 18KESALS using the 1986 AASHTO rigid pavement design procedure and TxDOT's recommended inputs.
- Estimated 92 million 18KESALS have travelled on IH 10 in the design lane from 2001 to 2016.
  - Same pavement is now on its 3<sup>rd</sup> life!
    - 2016 two way ADT of 226,390 with 6.4% trucks
    - For comparison, IH 10 near UTSA and FM 1604 has a 2016 two way ADT of 149,420 with 4.7% trucks
    - Would take more than twice as long in San Antonio to reach the same traffic loading condition as IH 10 in Houston

## **IH 10 from IH 610 to IH 45**

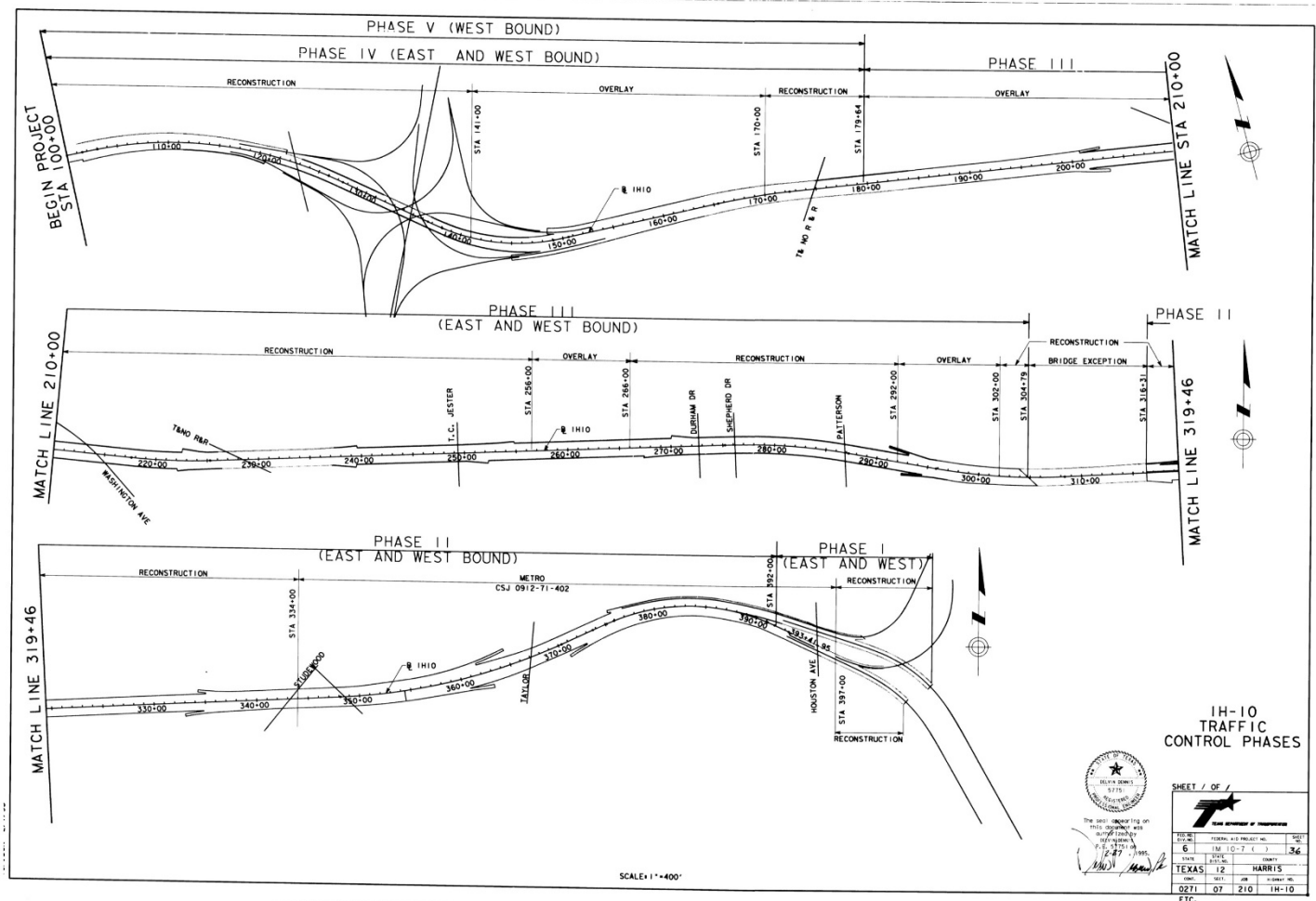
### **Reconstructed Sections**

- 14" CRCP
- 3" Asphalt Stabilized Base
- 6" Lime Treated Subgrade

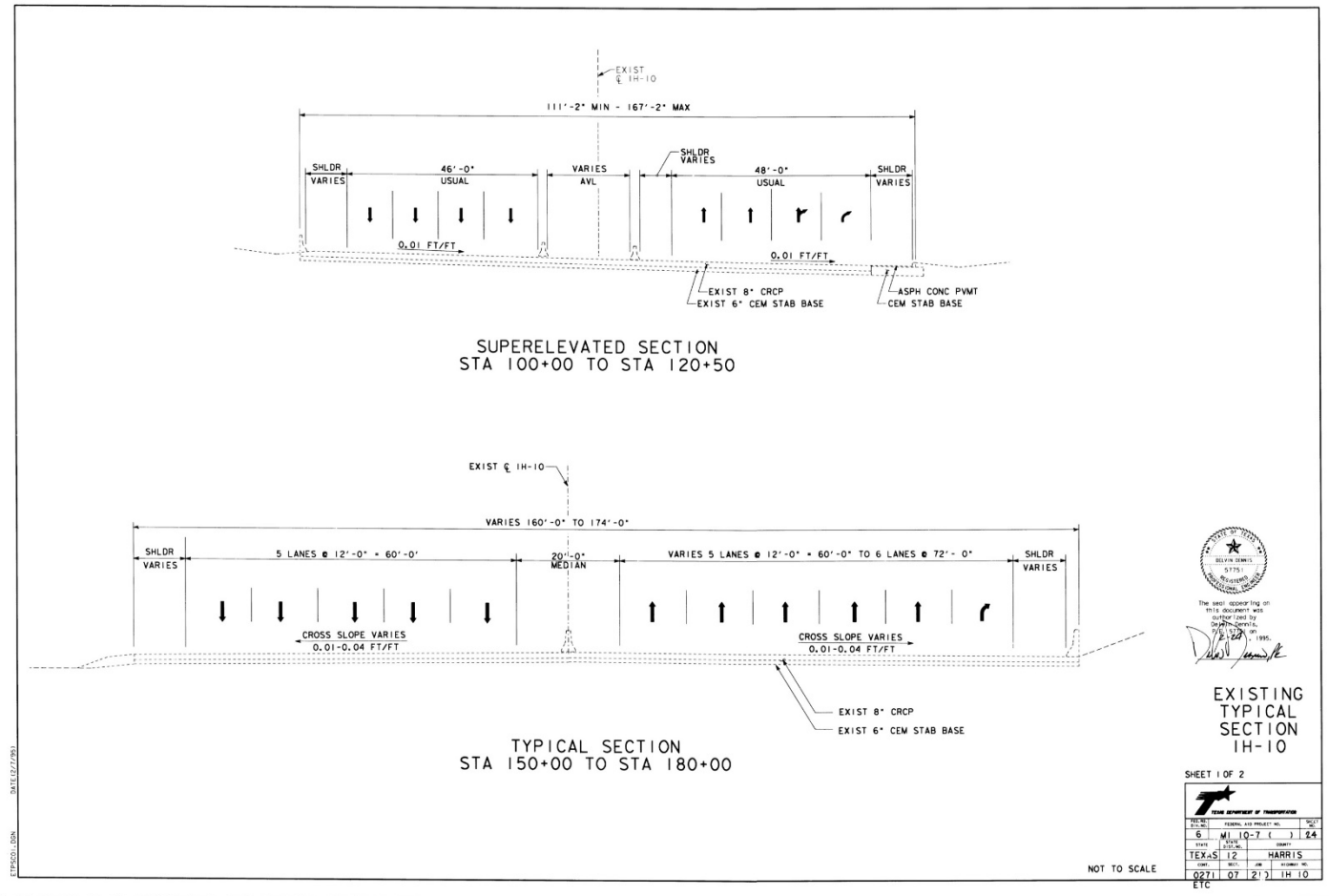
## **IH 10 from IH 610 to IH 45**

### **Unbonded Concrete Overlay Sections**

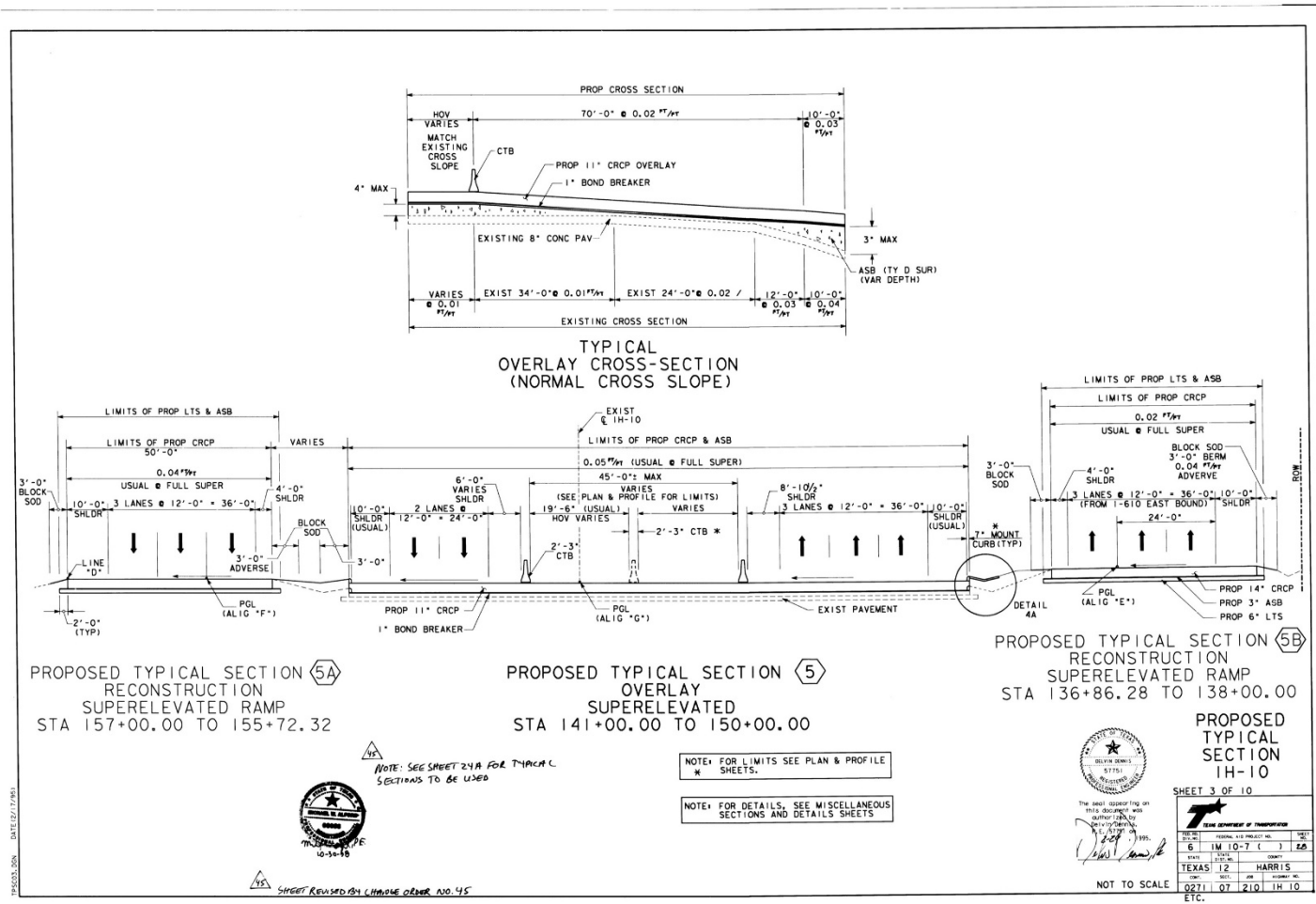
- 11" CRCP
- 1" Asphalt Stabilized Base
- 8" Existing CRCP
- 6" Existing Cement Stabilized Base



# IH 10 Layout



# IH 10 Typical Sections



# IH 10 Typical Sections





# IH 10 Typical Sections

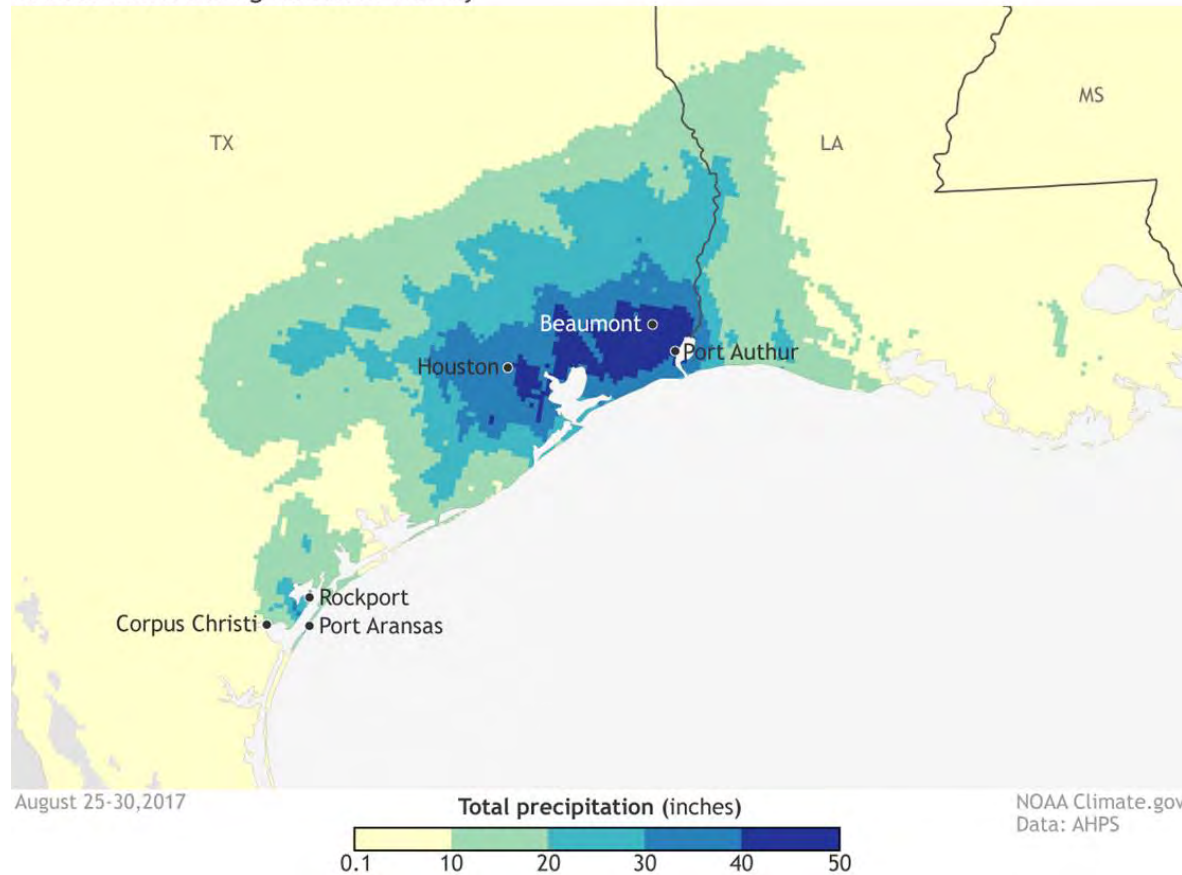
## IH 10 from IH 610 to IH 45

- Has been flooded *at least* three times since reconstruction
- TxDOT Maintenance Expenditures for pavement-related\* items from 2001 to 2016 on this section were \$303,113, or \$3,125/lane mile
  - Less than \$200/year/lane mile up to this point

\* Does not include trash pick-up, striping, etc.

# Flooding During Hurricane Harvey

Rainfall totals during Hurricane Harvey



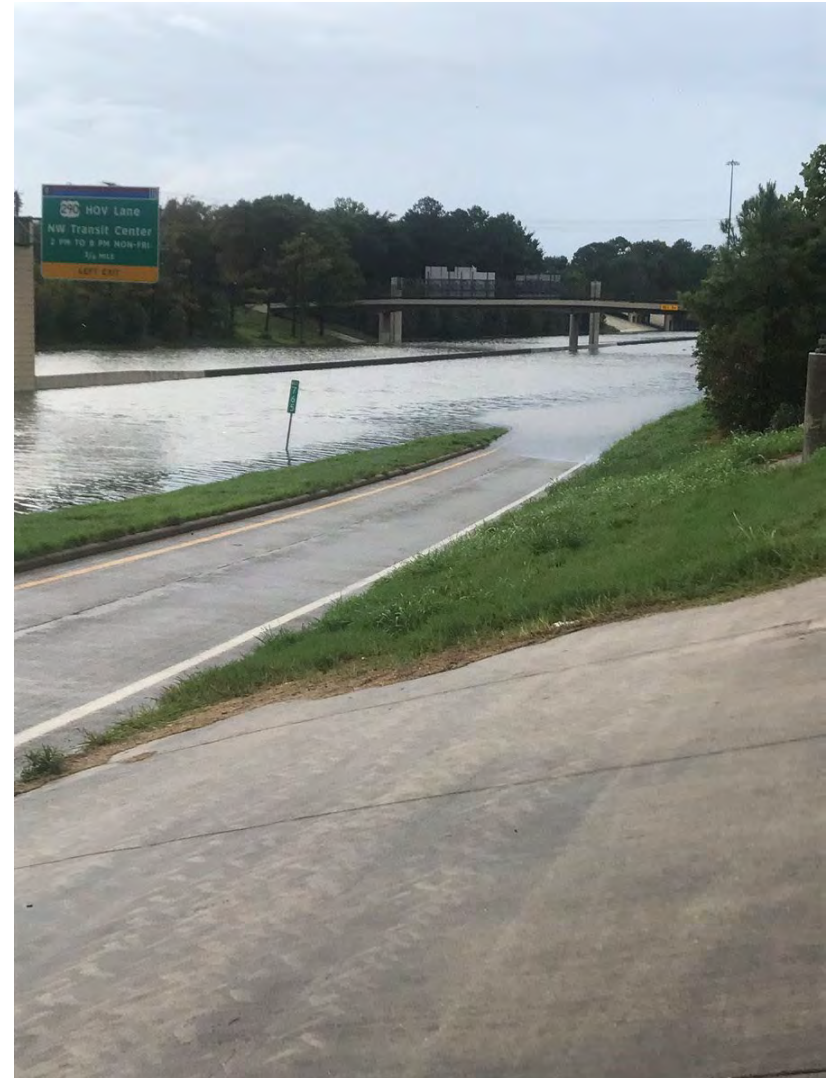












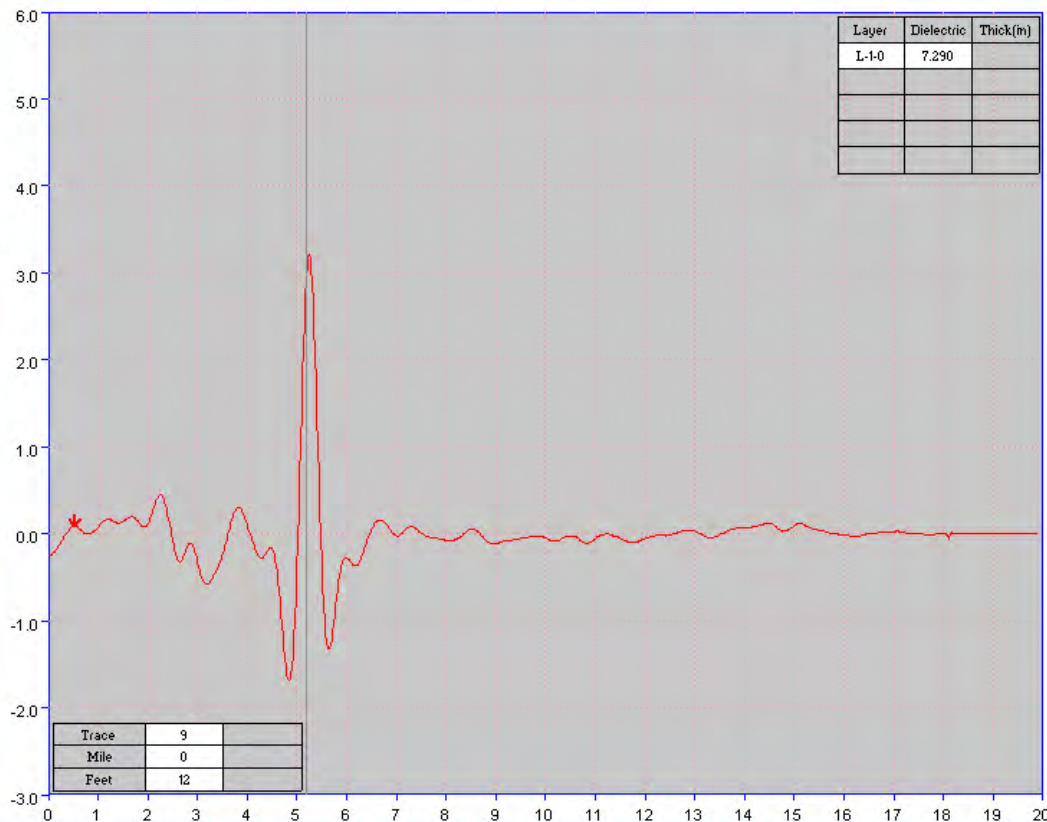
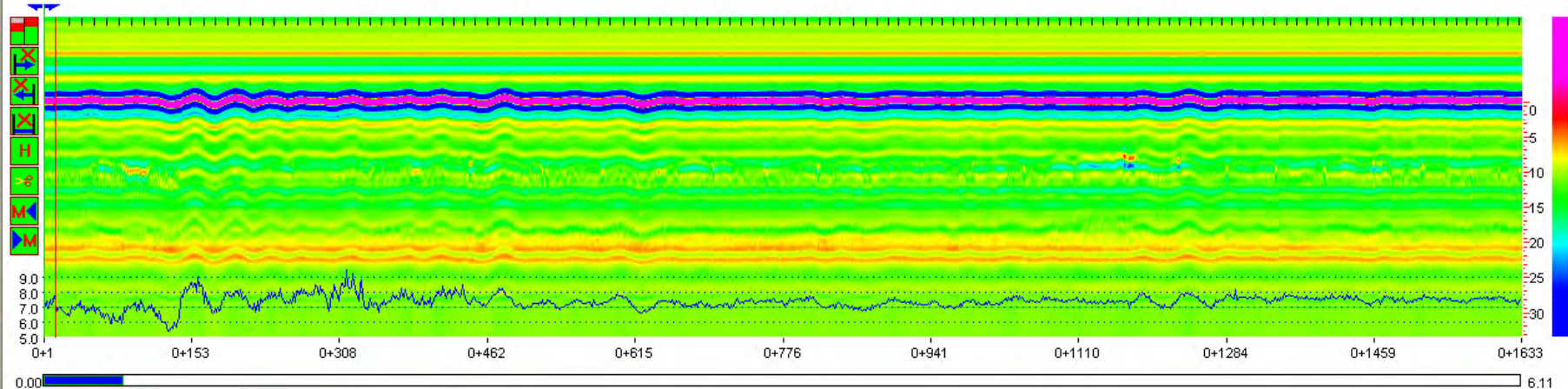




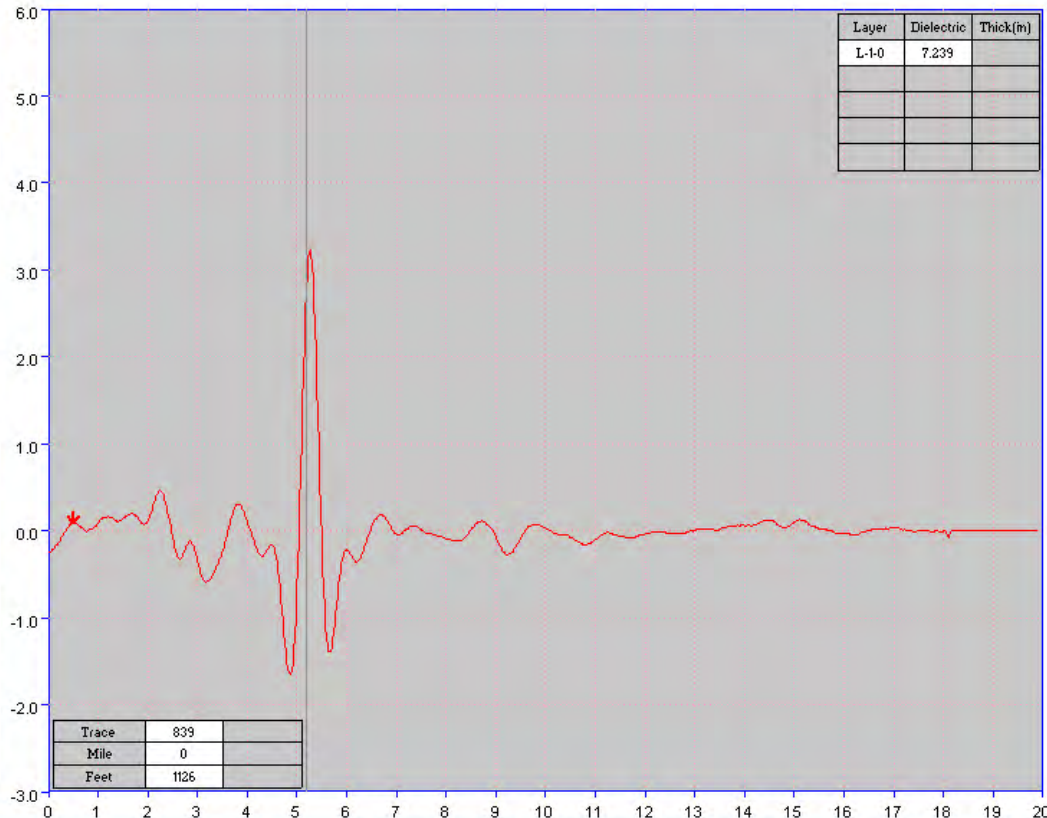
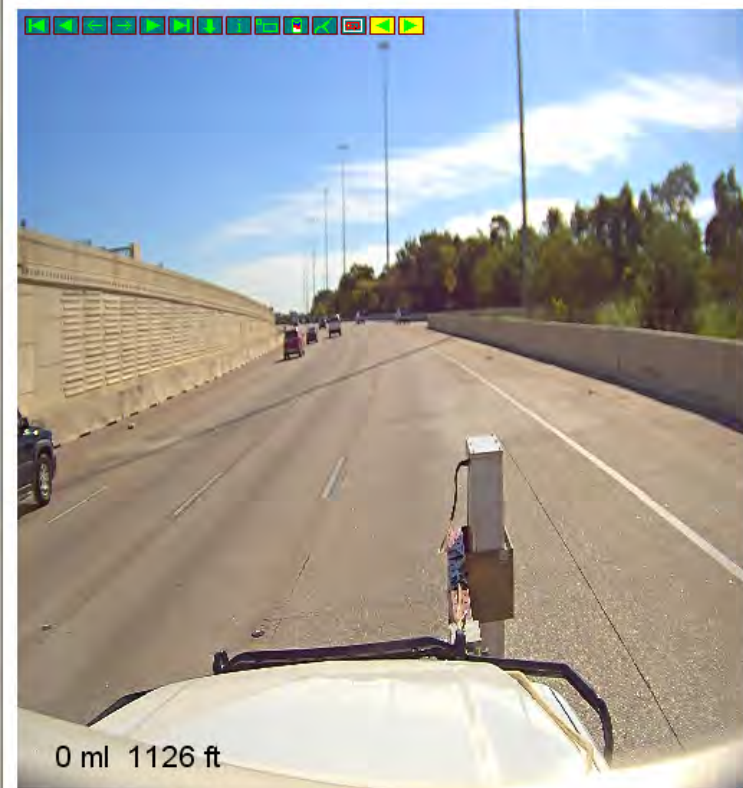
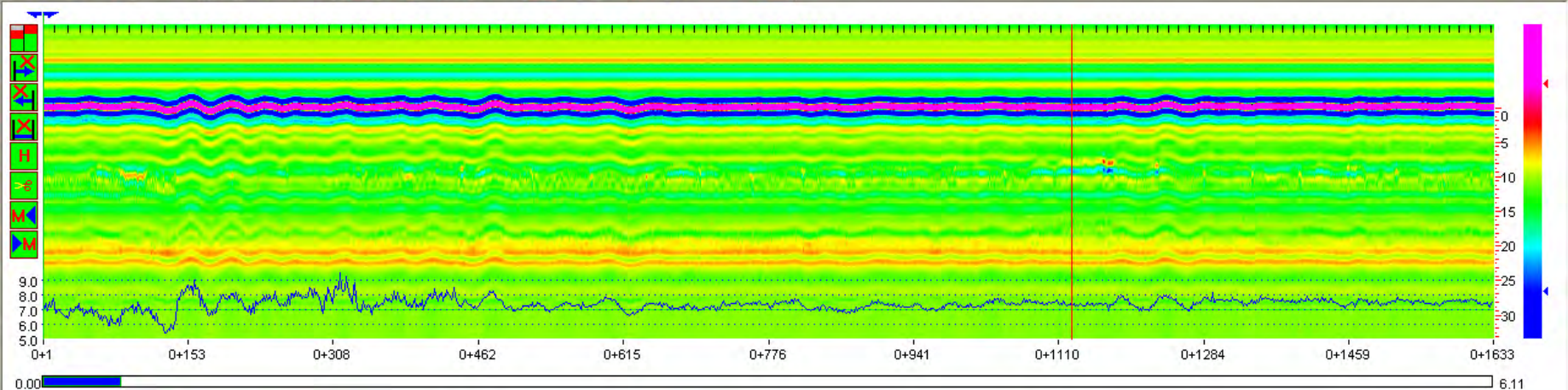


**IH 10 after Harvey, Oct 2017**

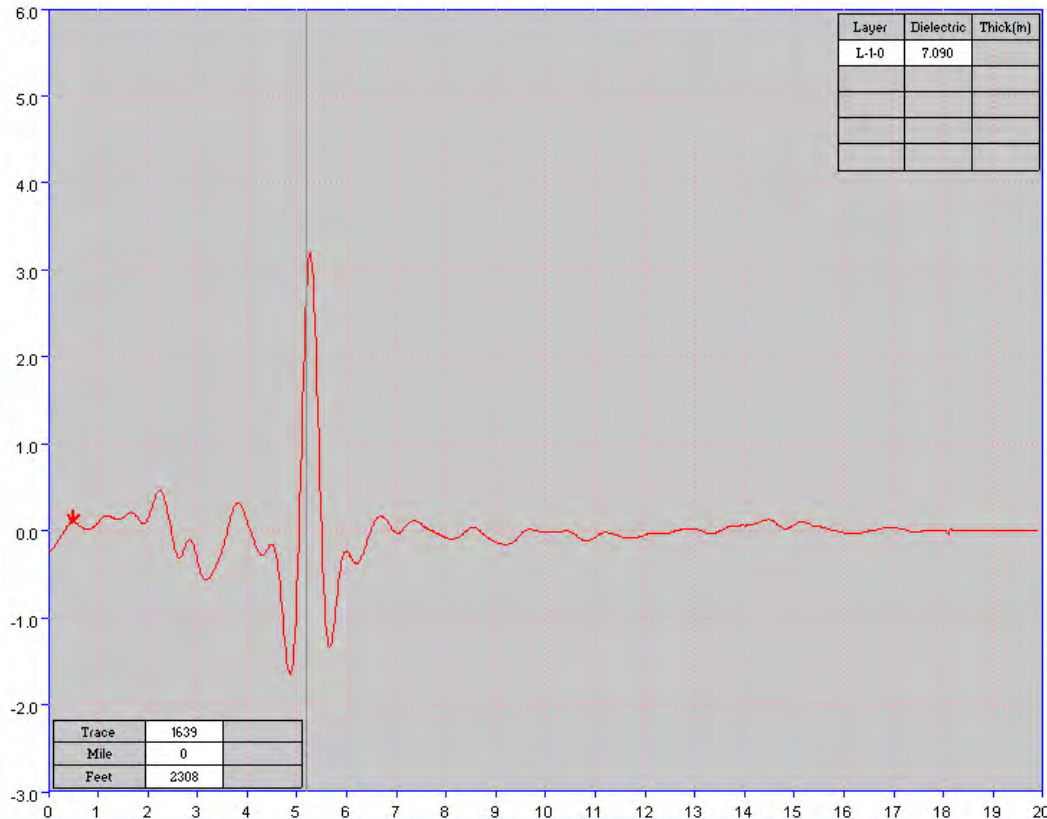
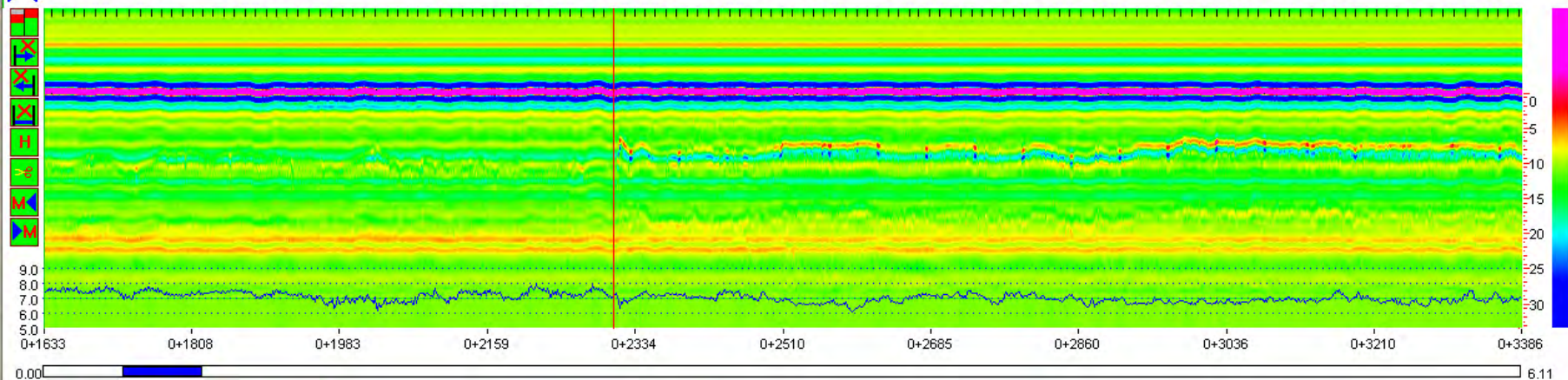
# **IH 10 Eastbound Ground Penetrating Radar Data October, 2017**



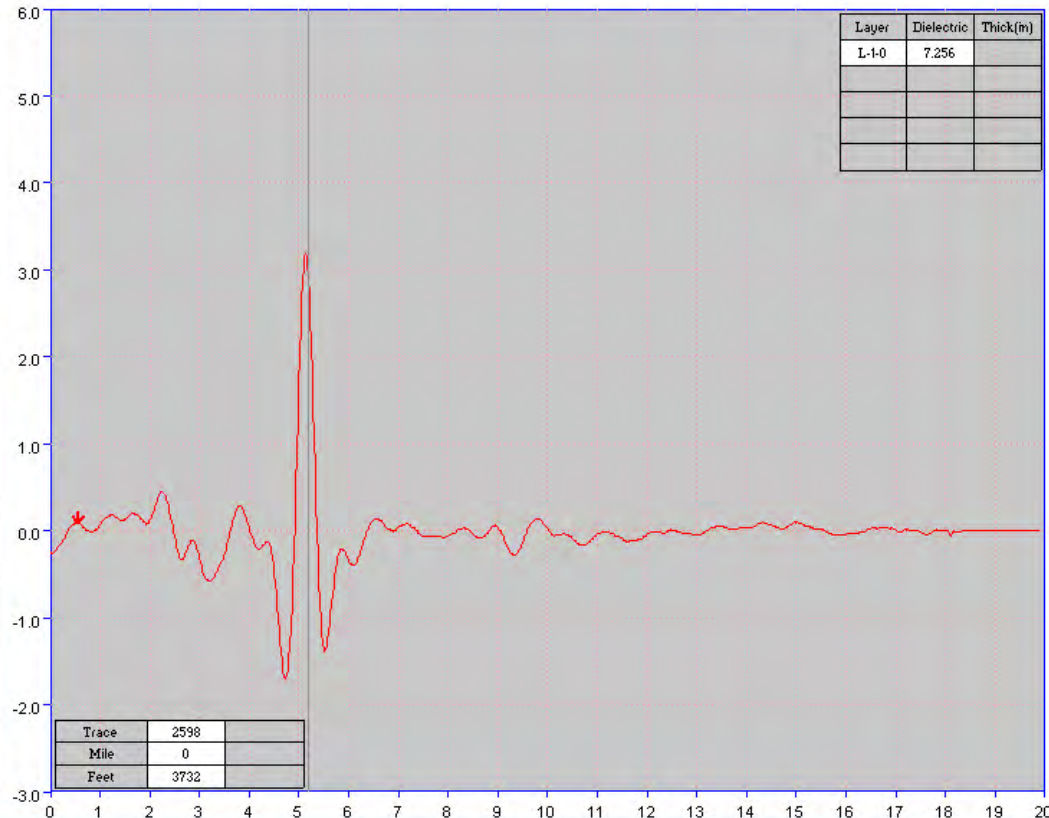
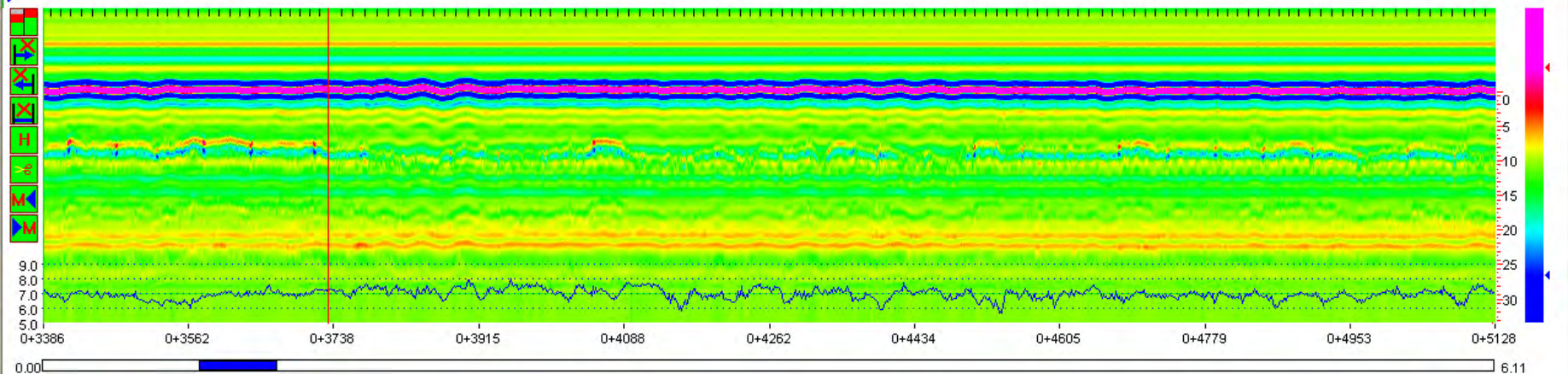




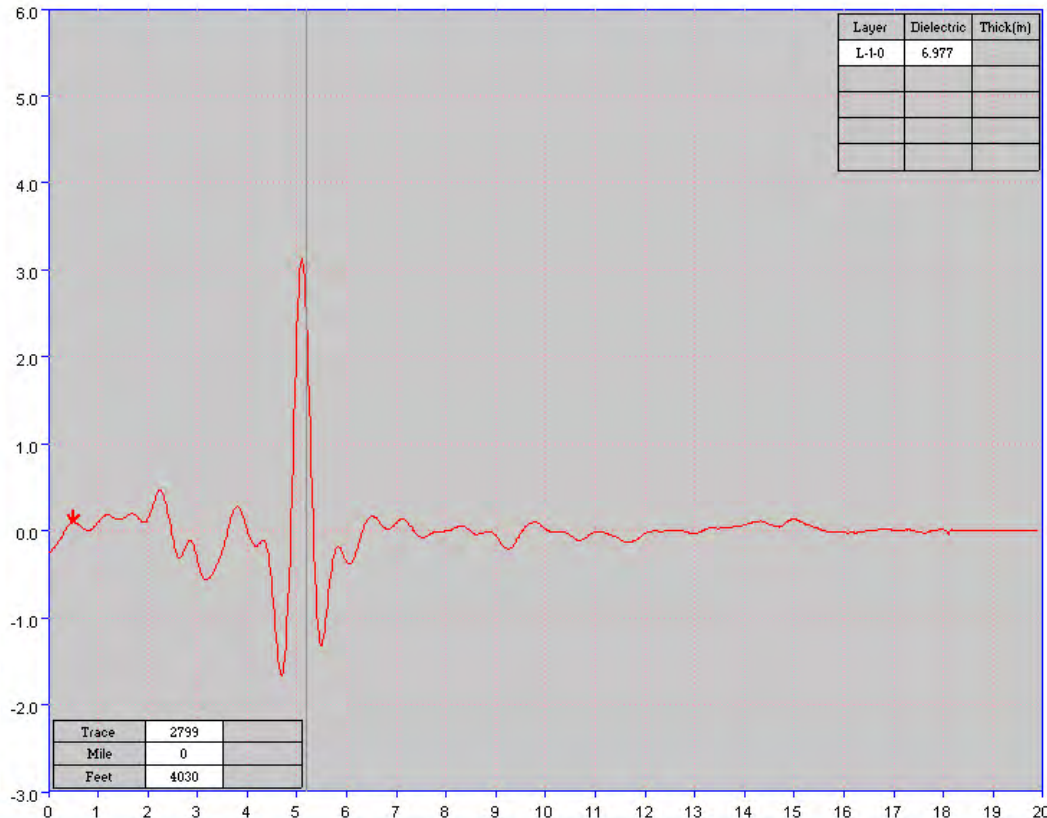
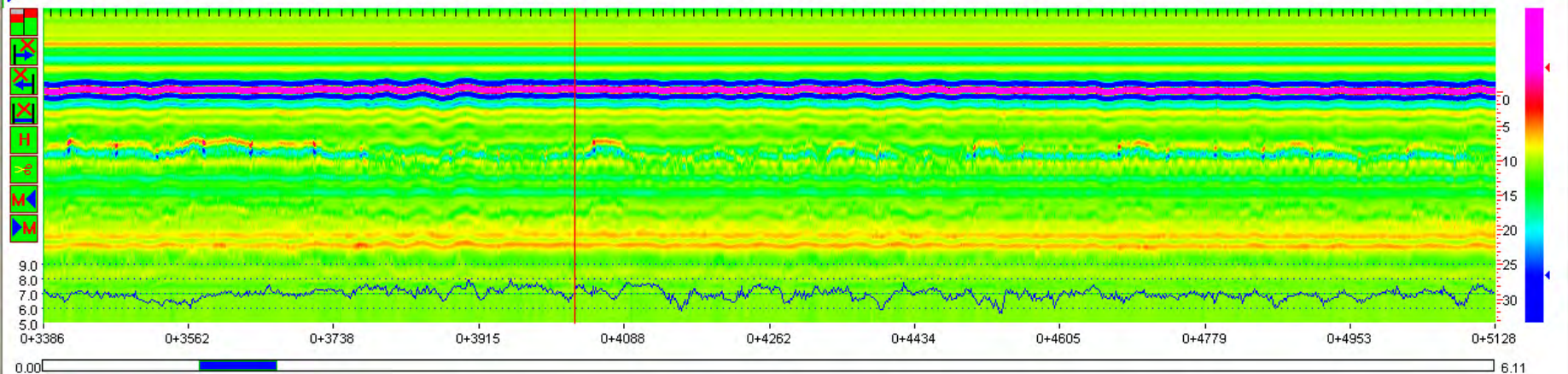




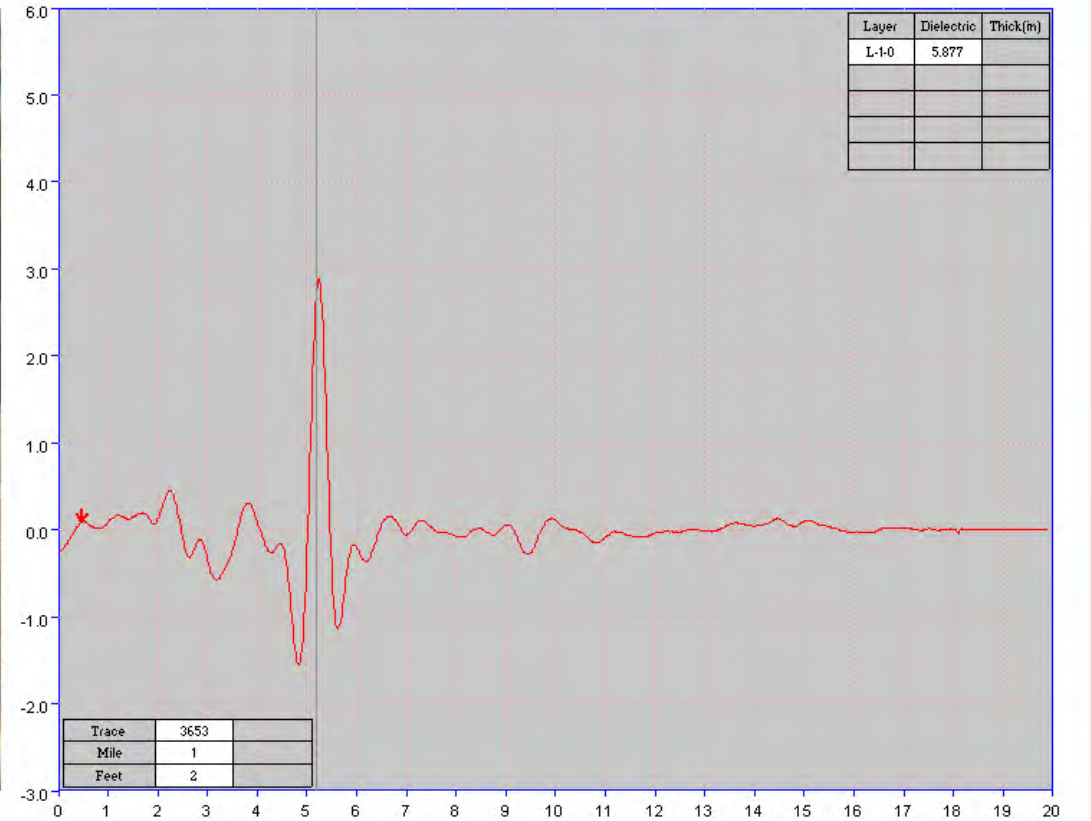
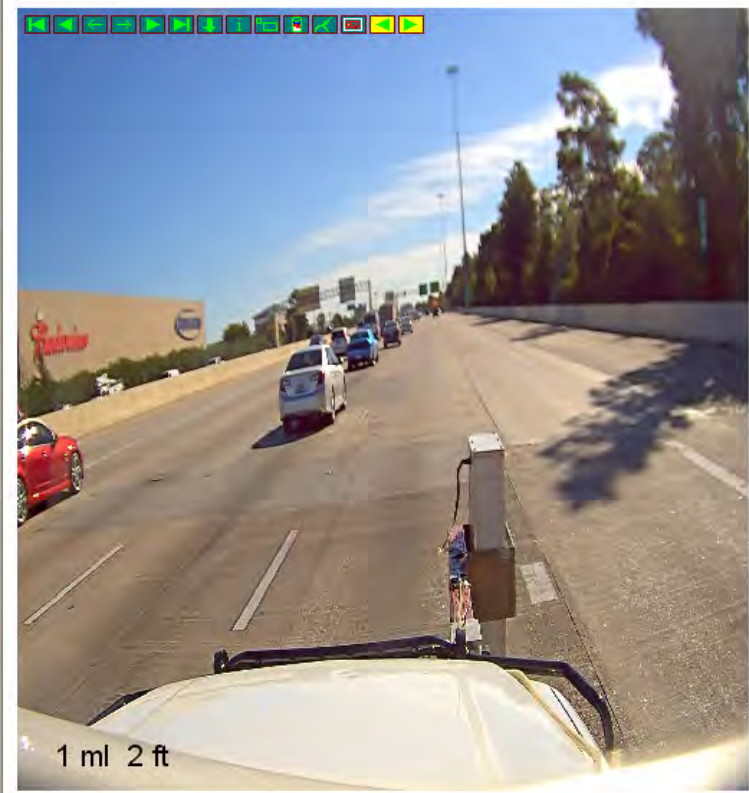
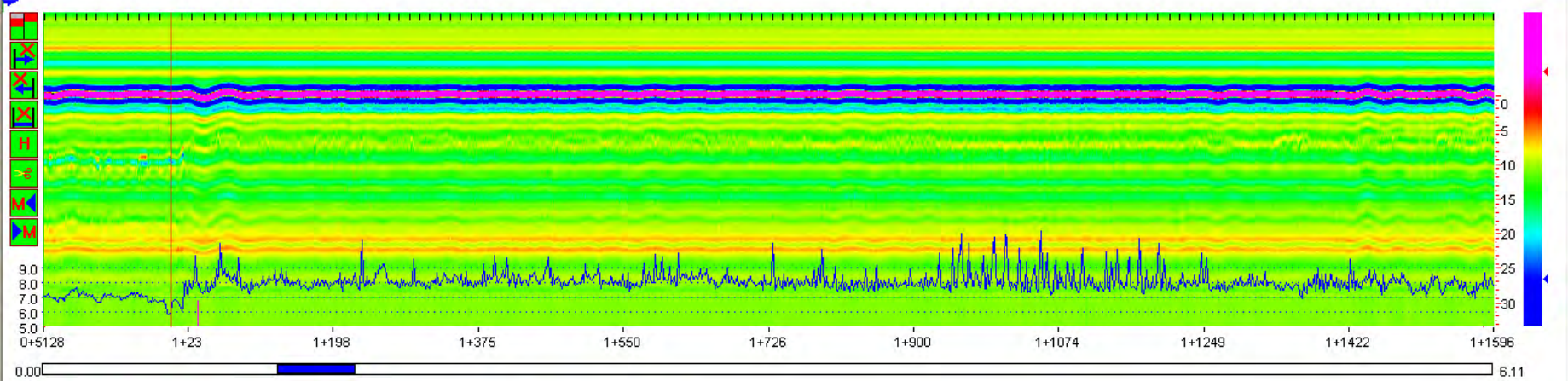




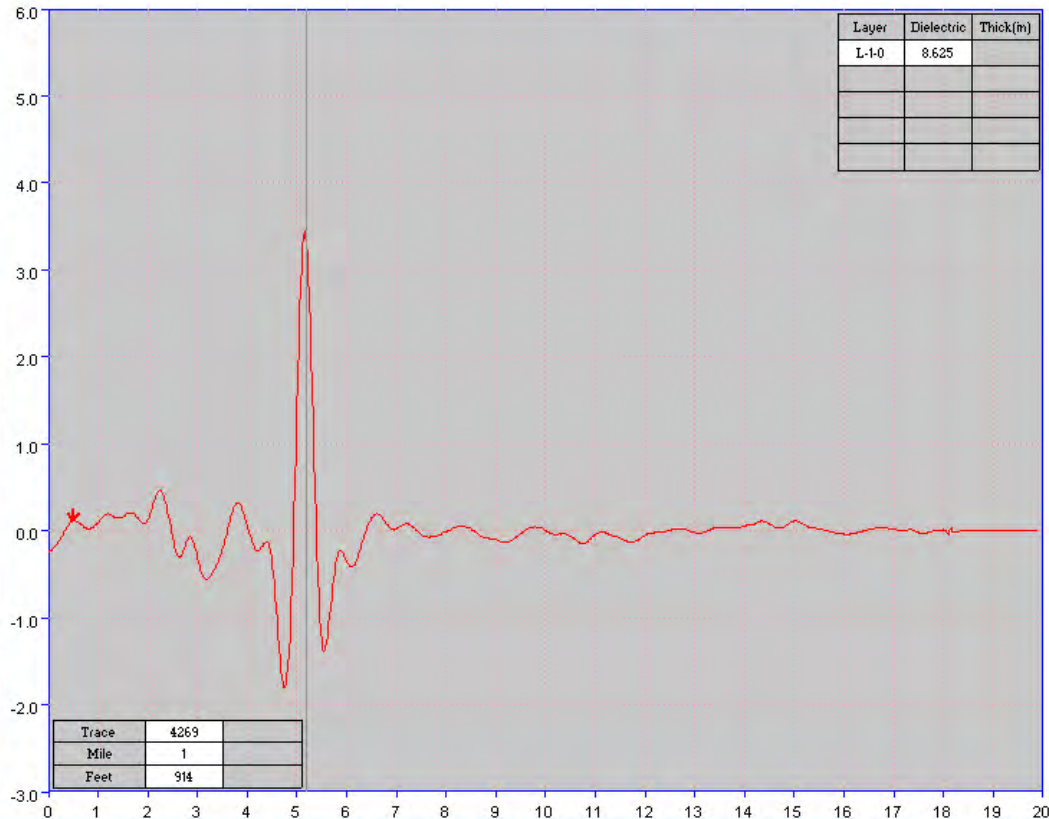
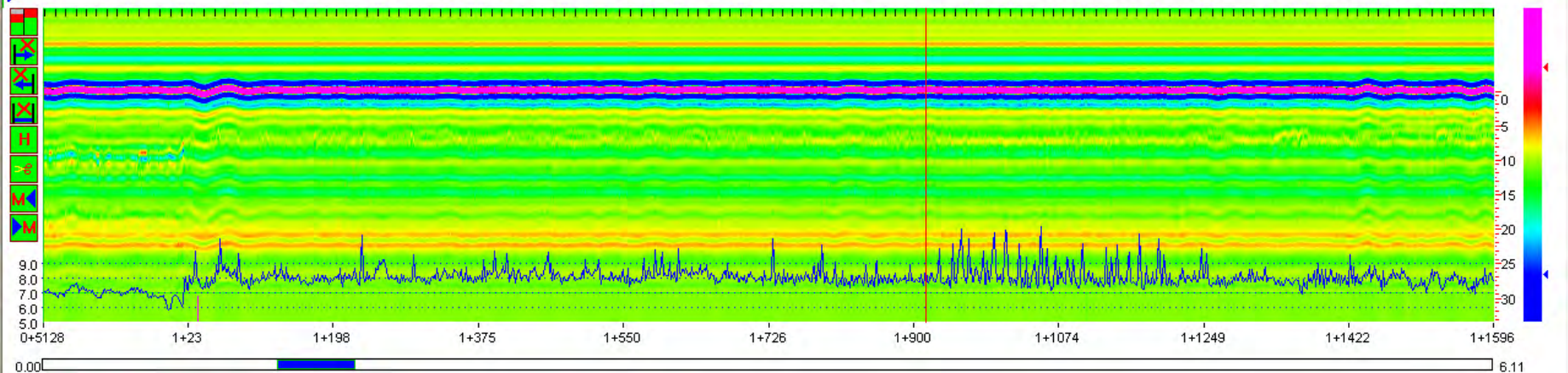
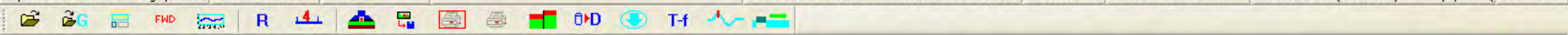




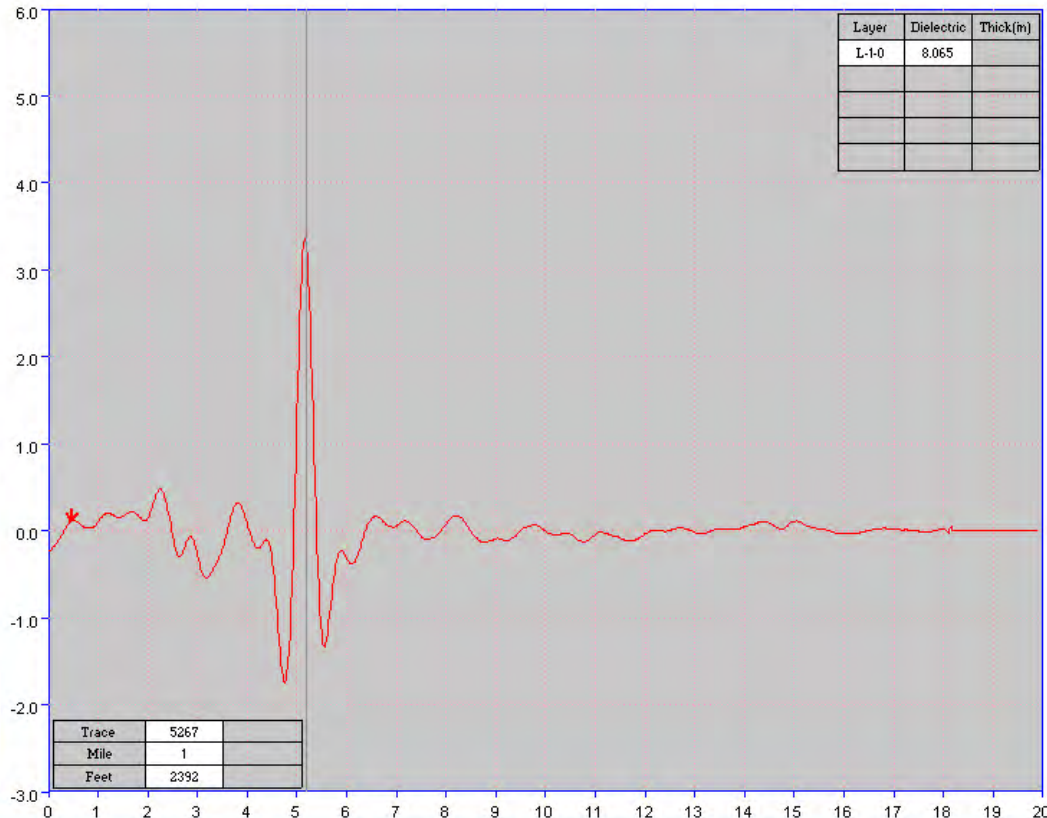
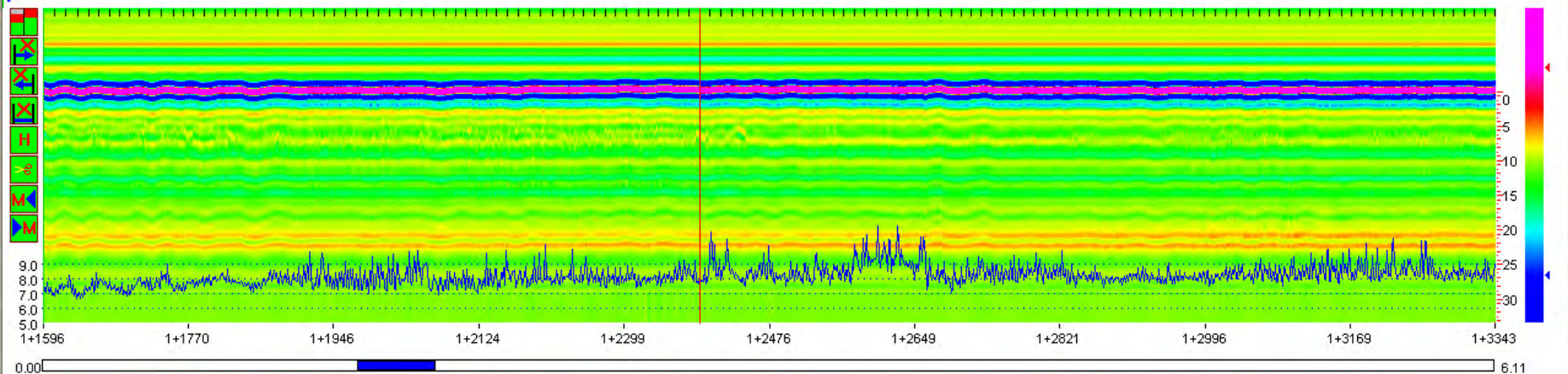




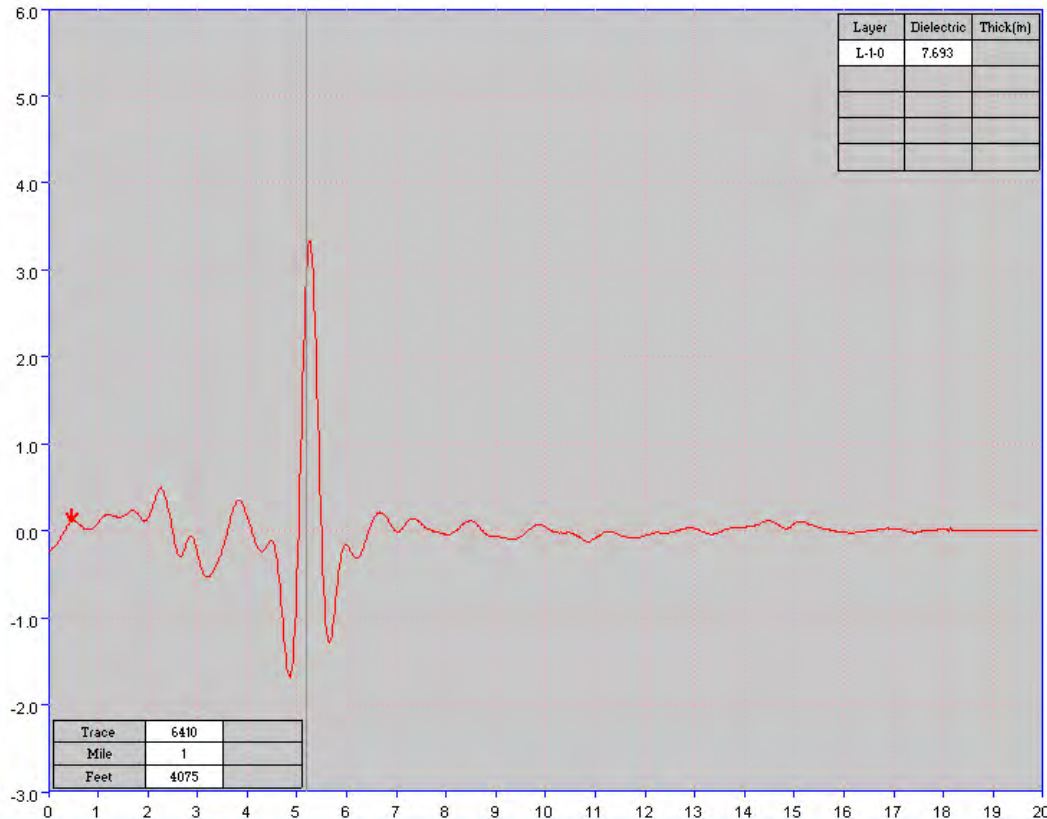
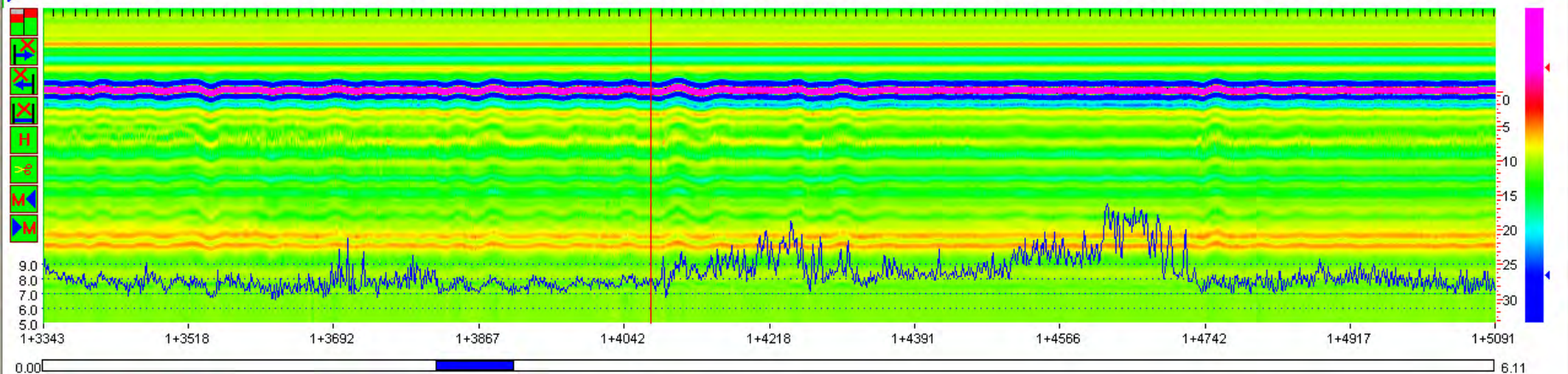




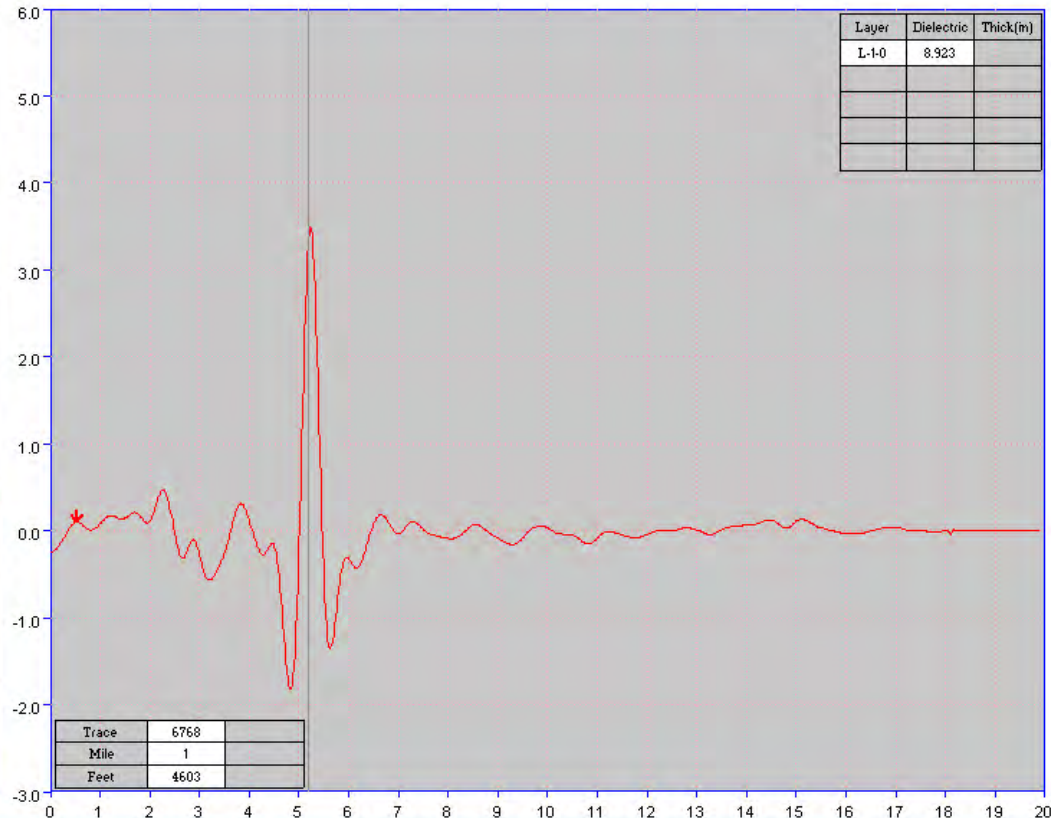
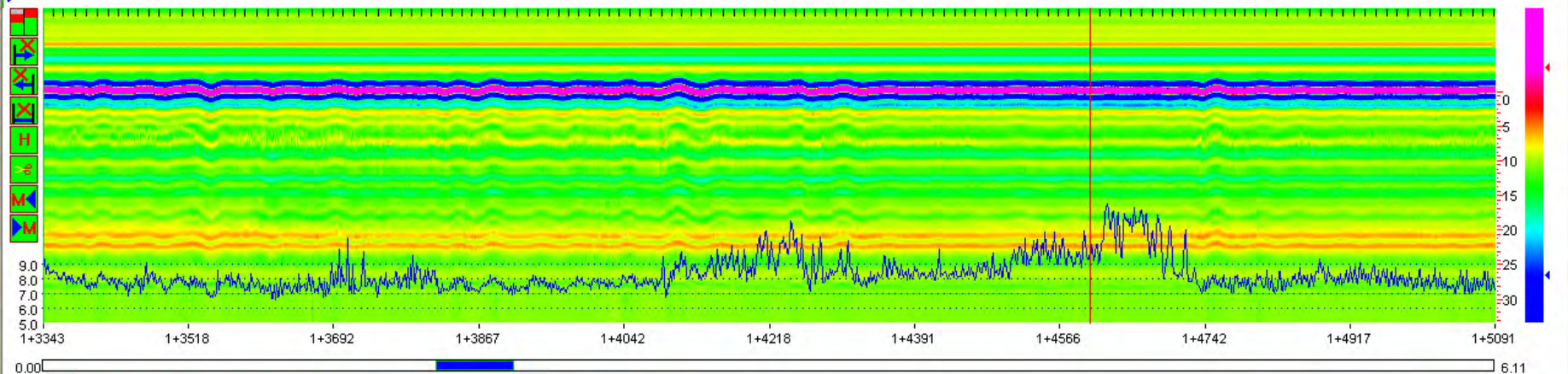




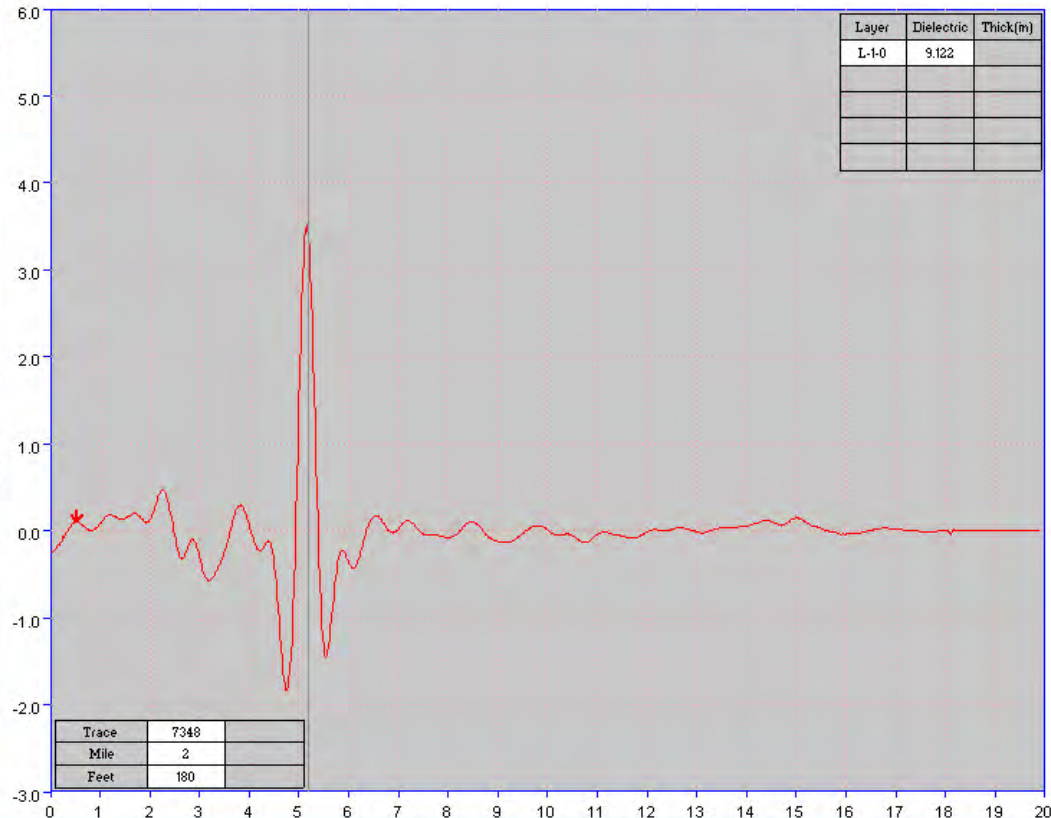
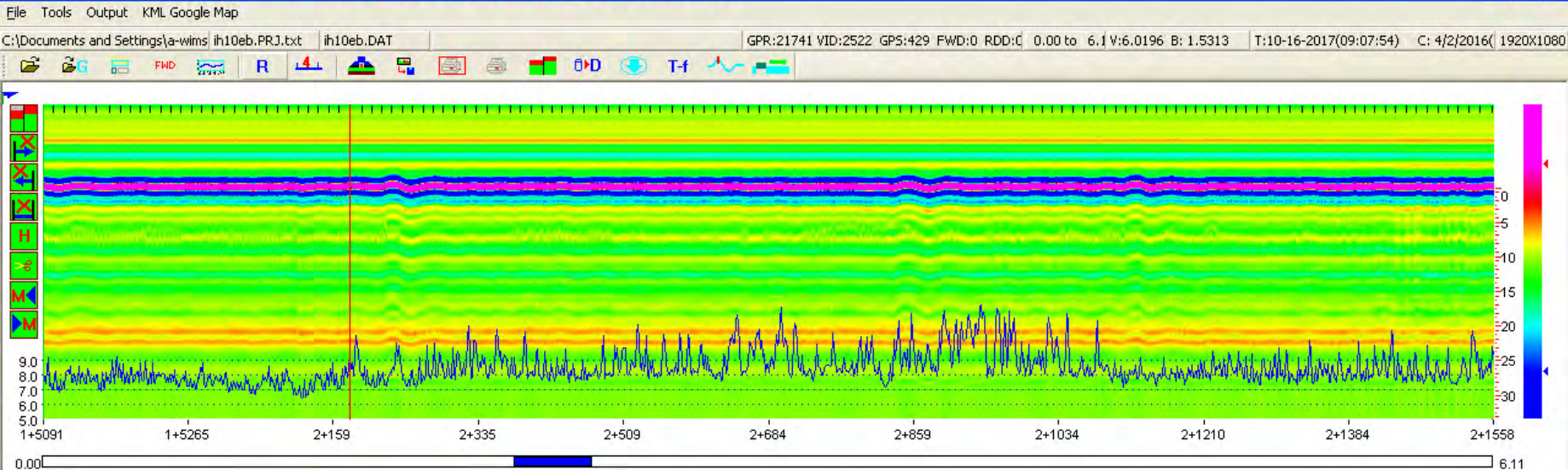




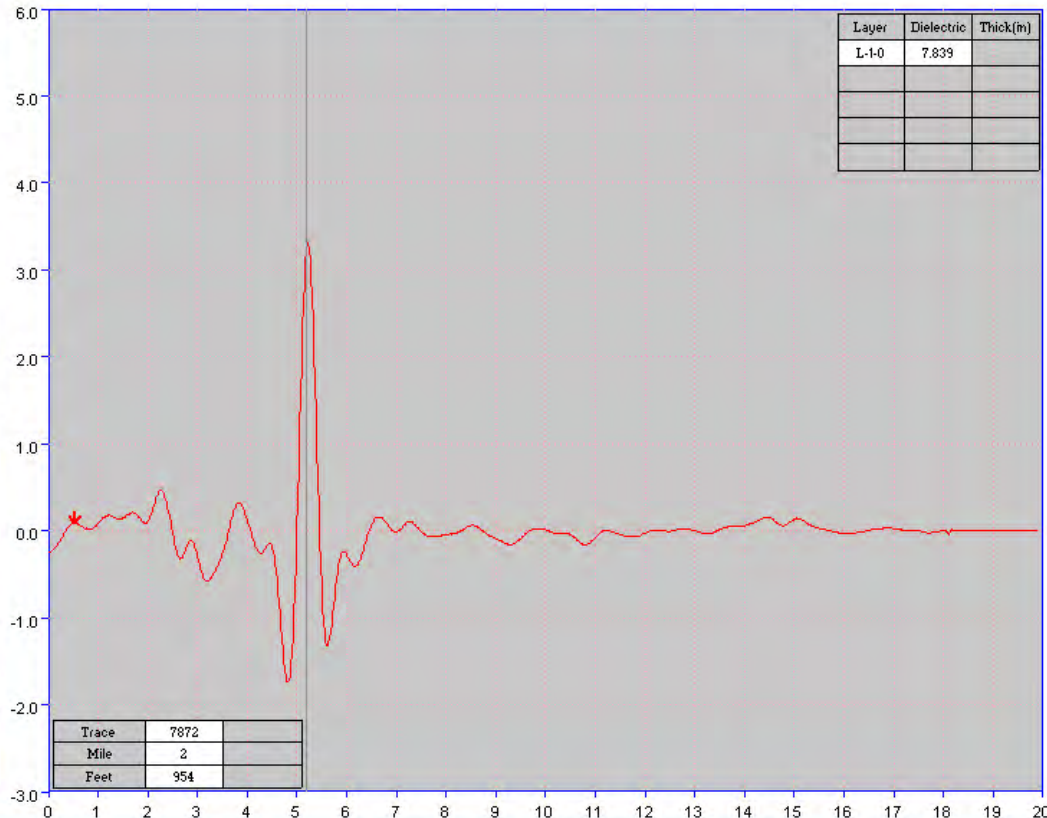
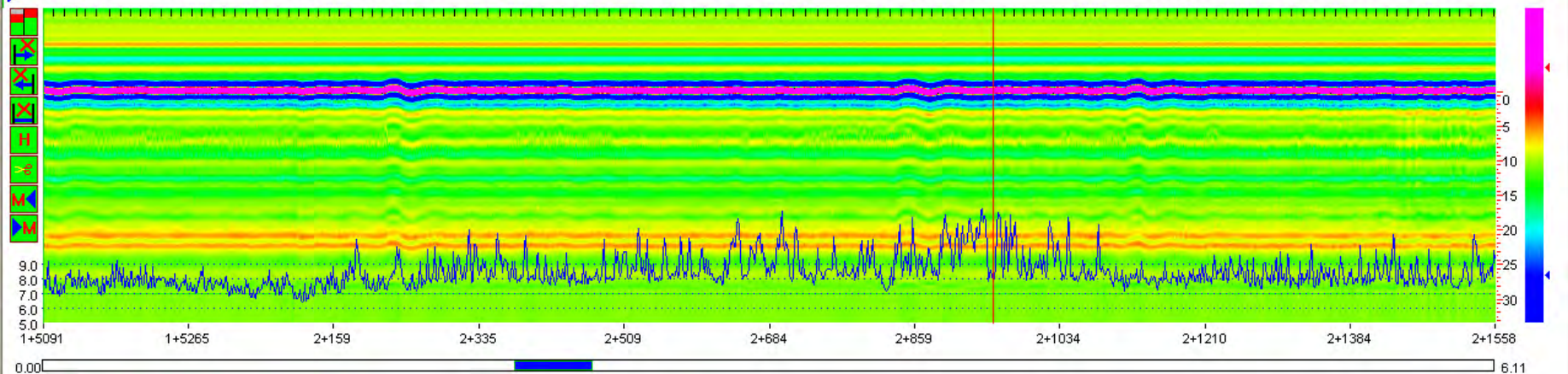




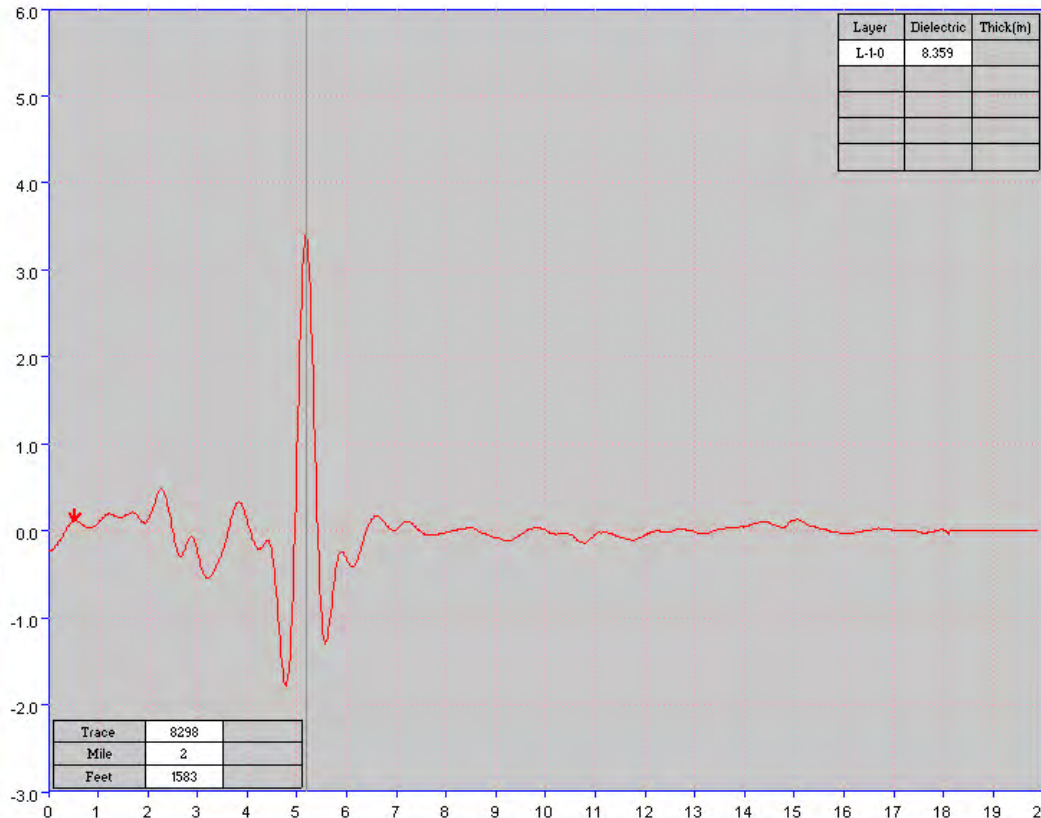
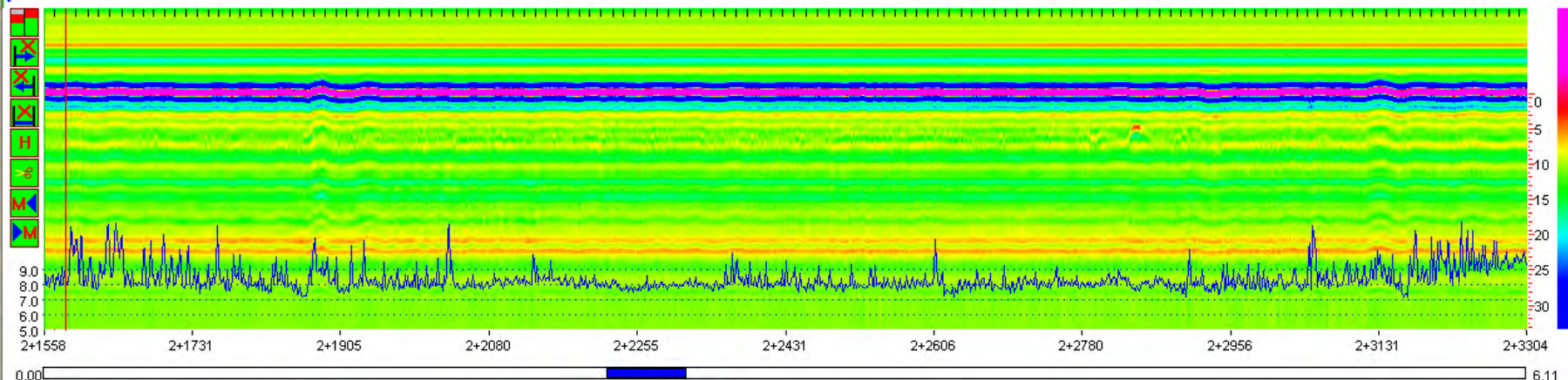




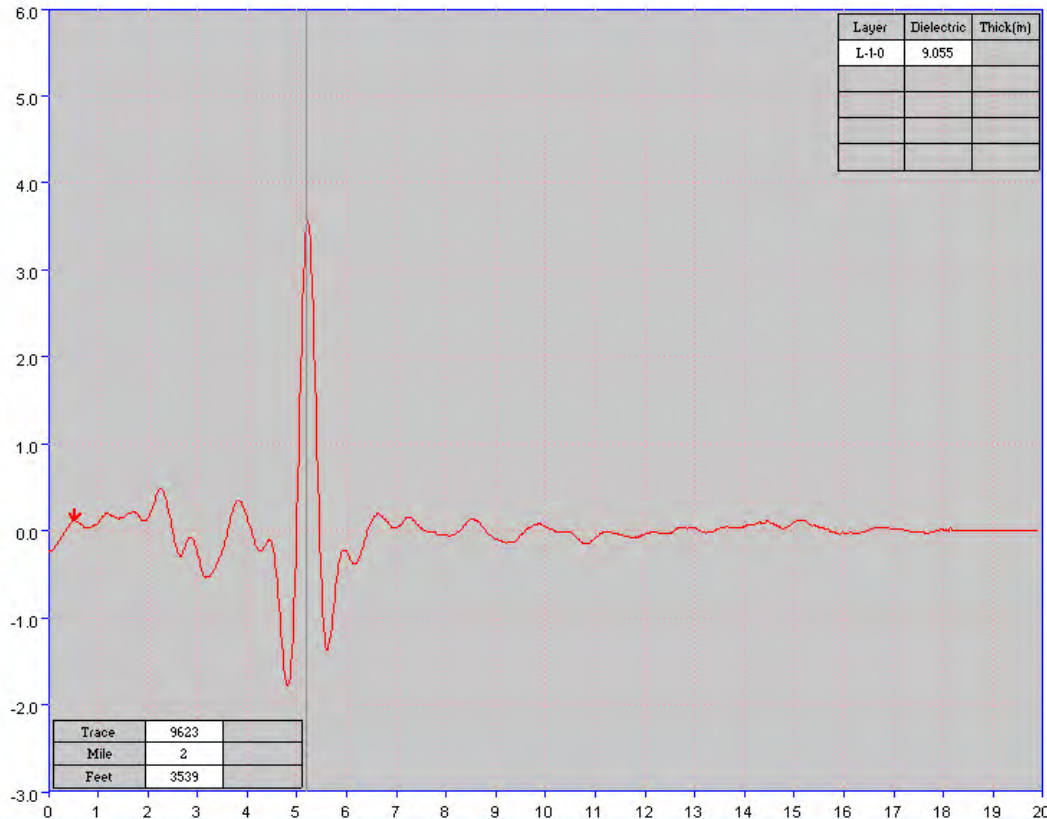
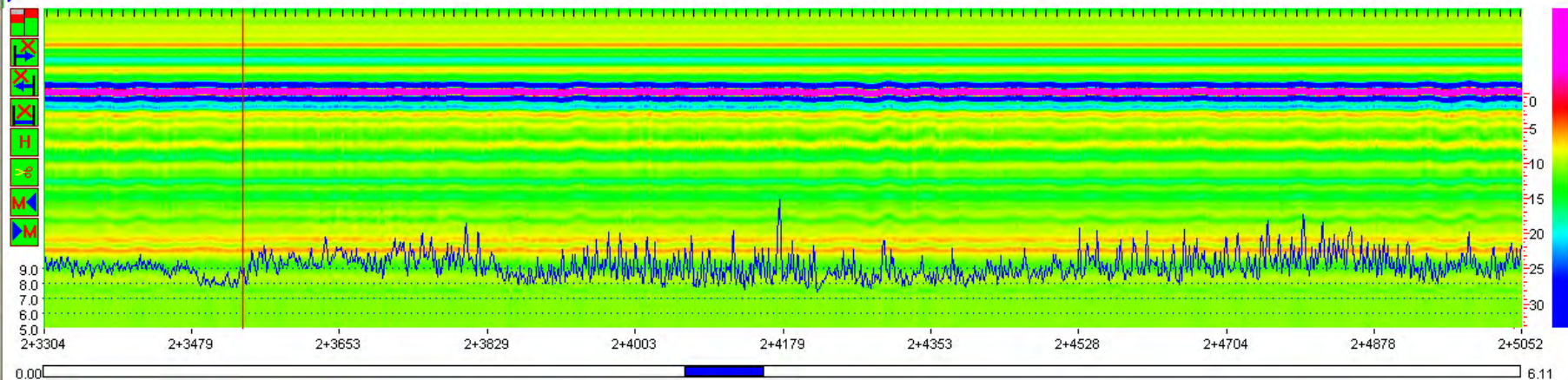




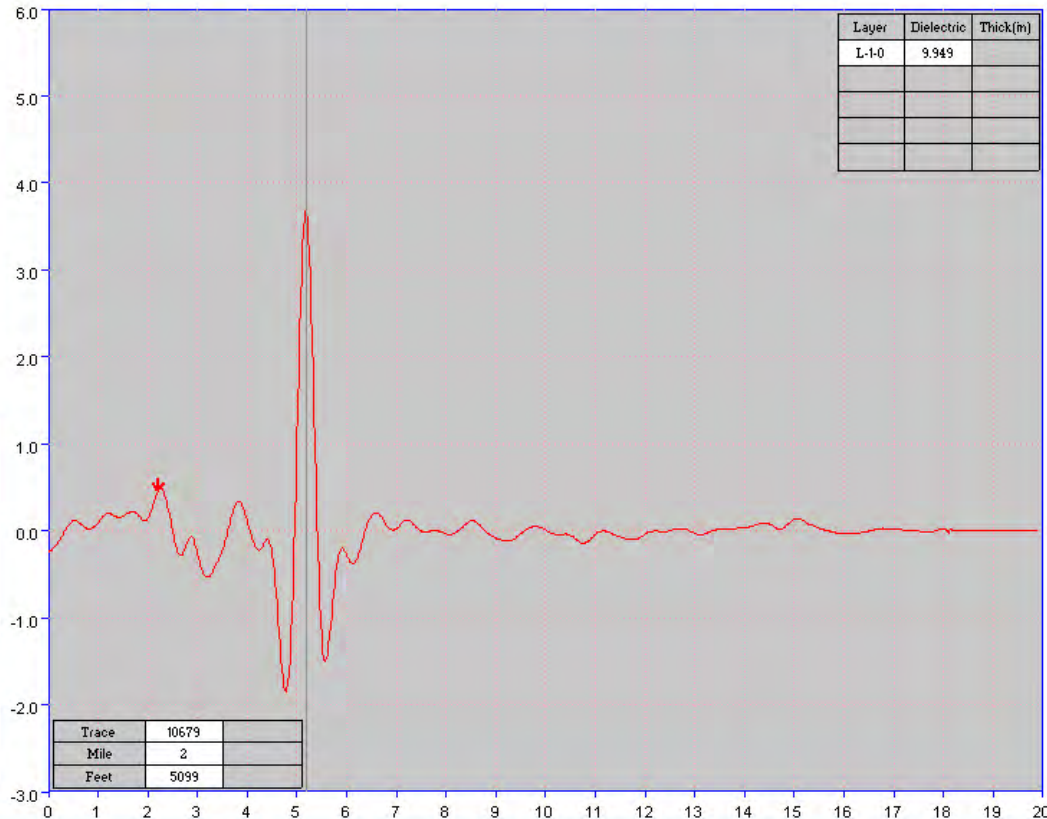
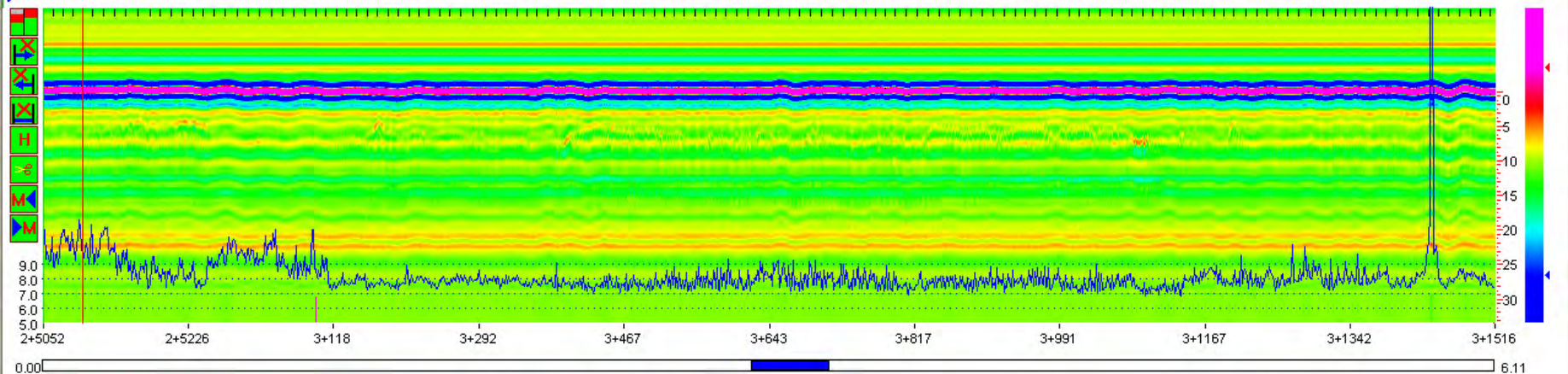




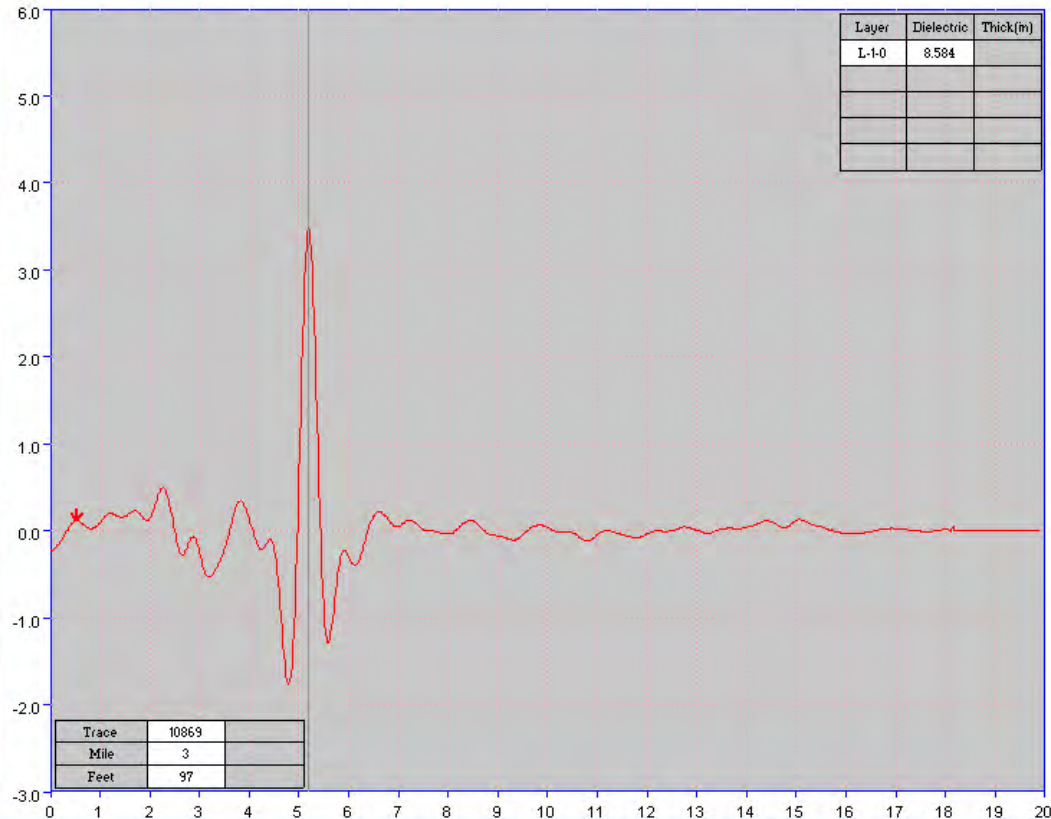
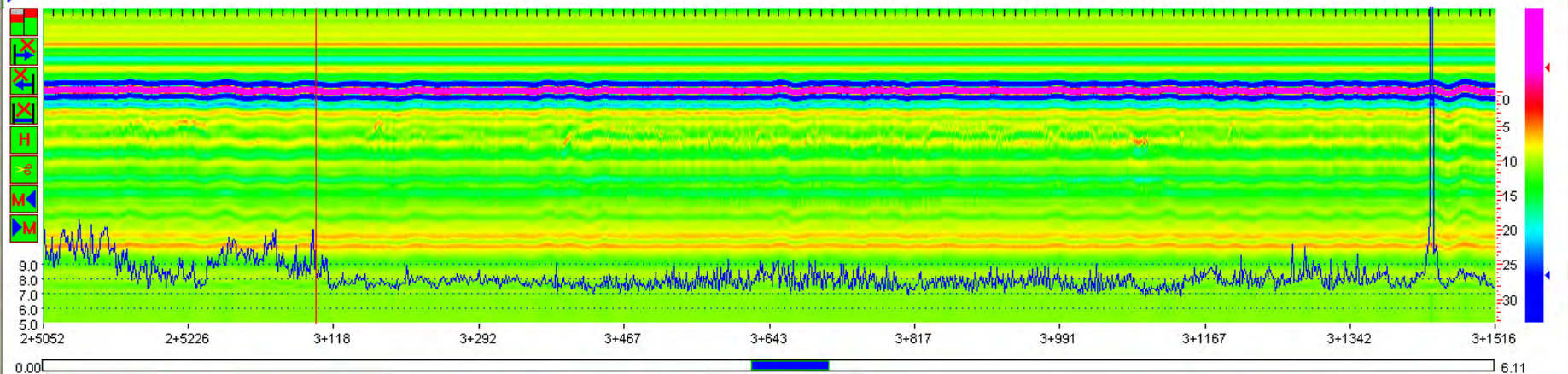




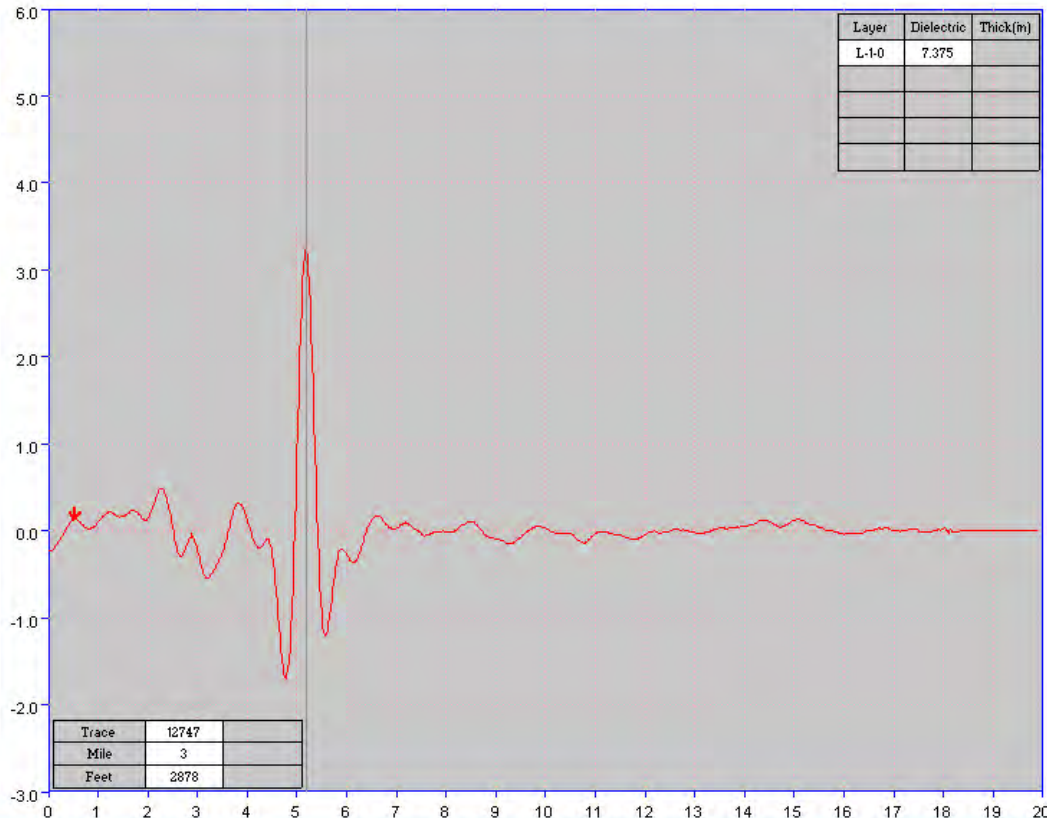
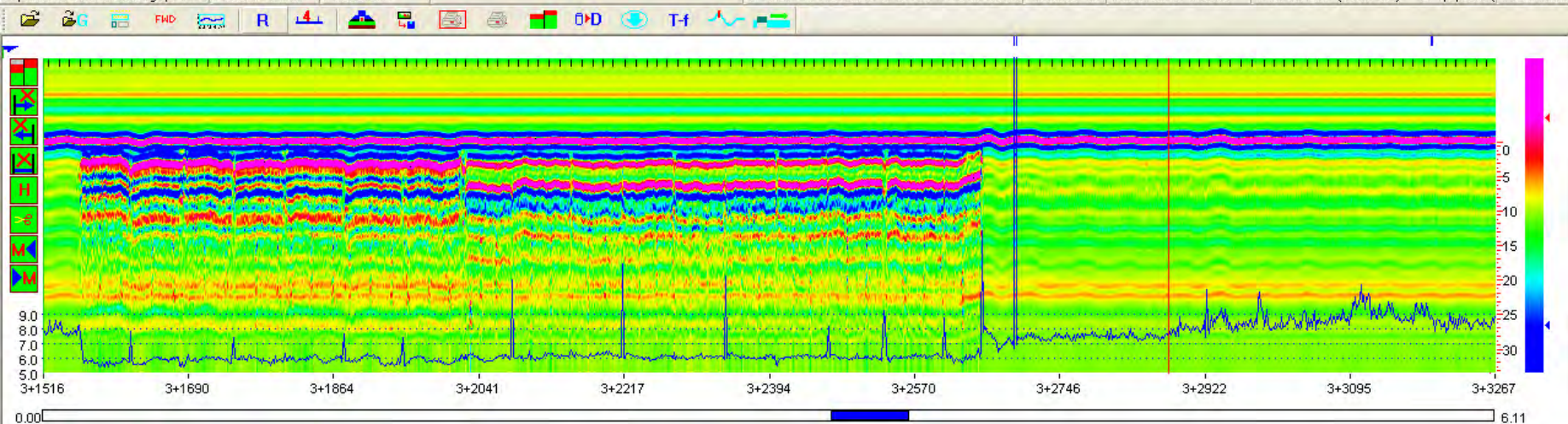




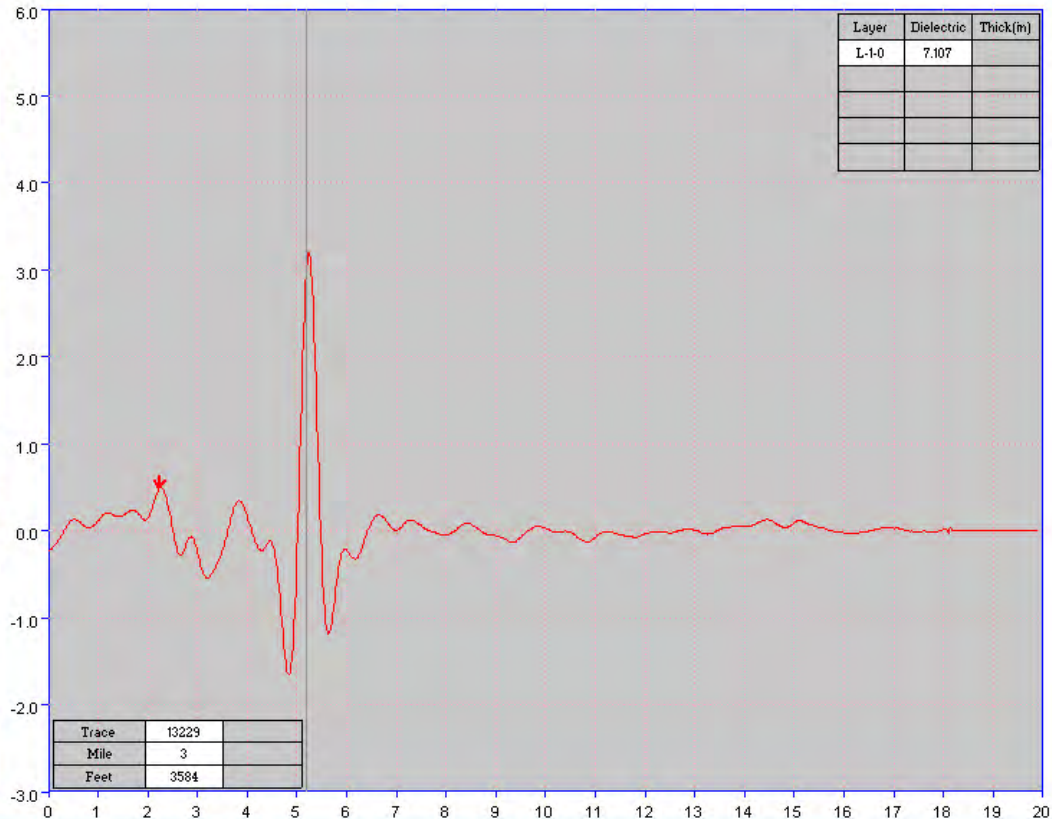
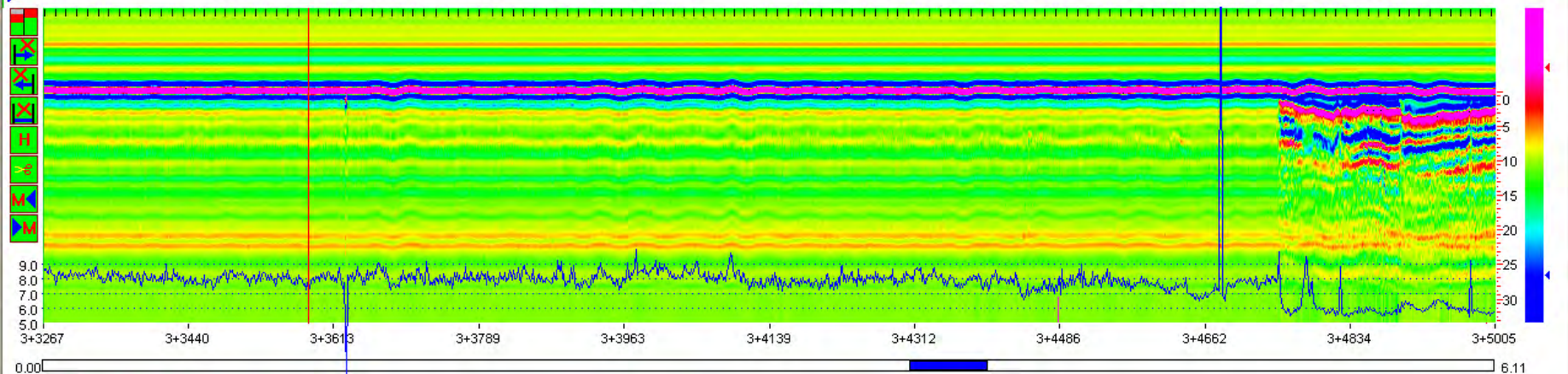




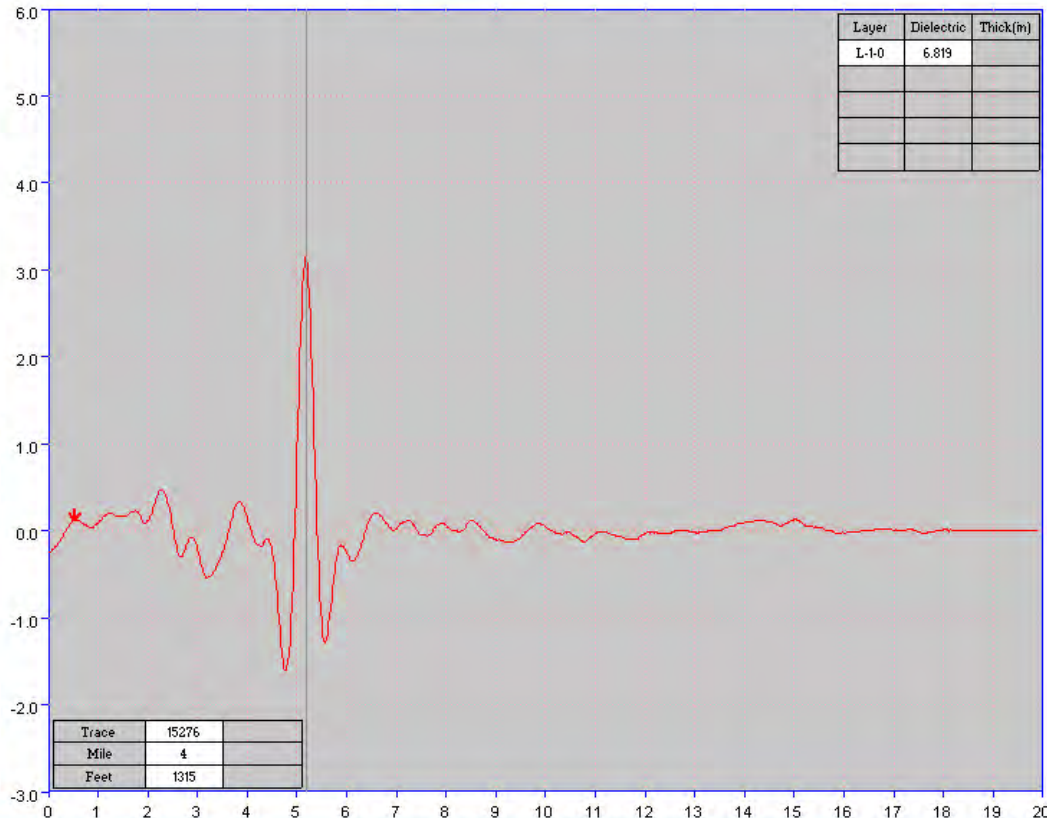
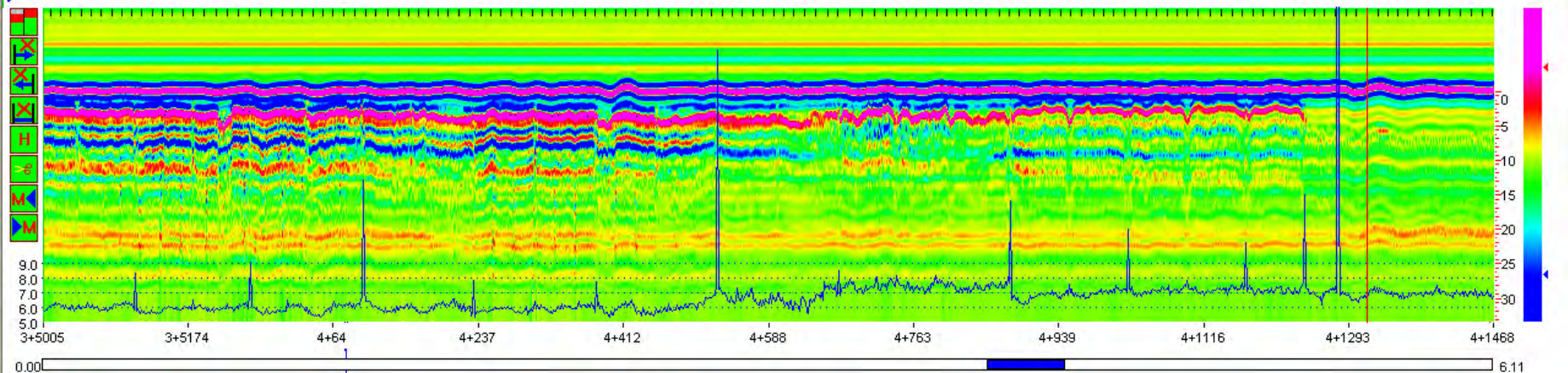




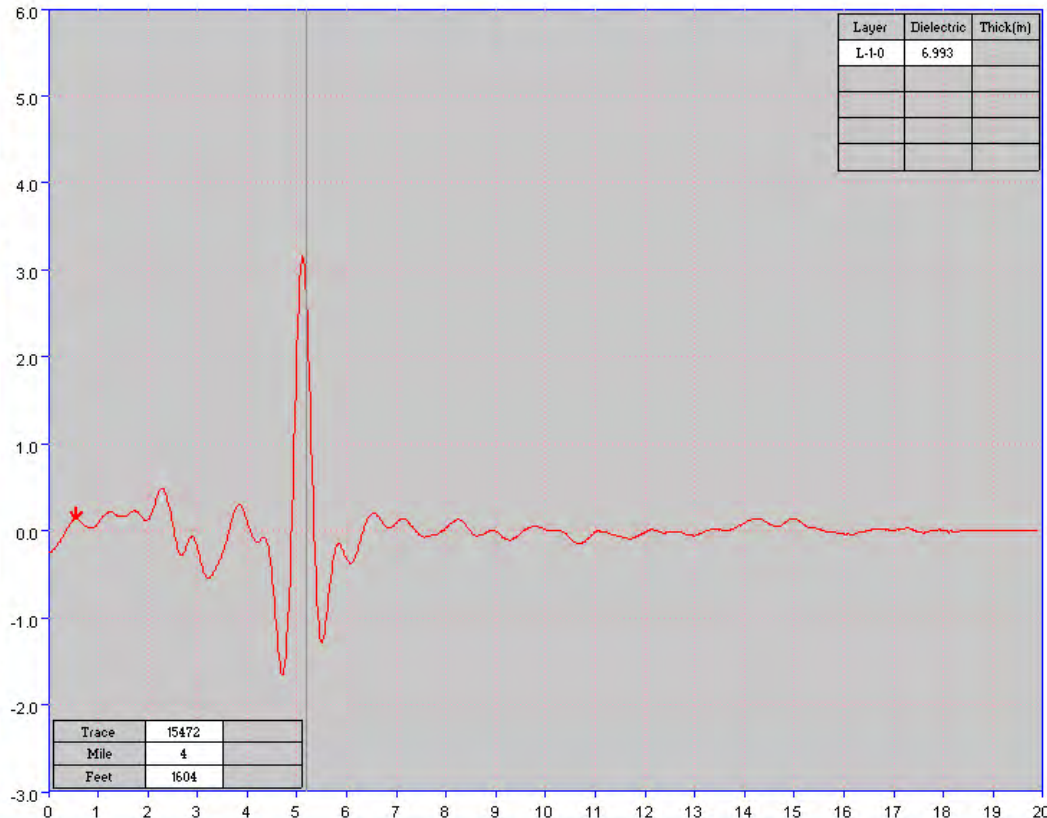
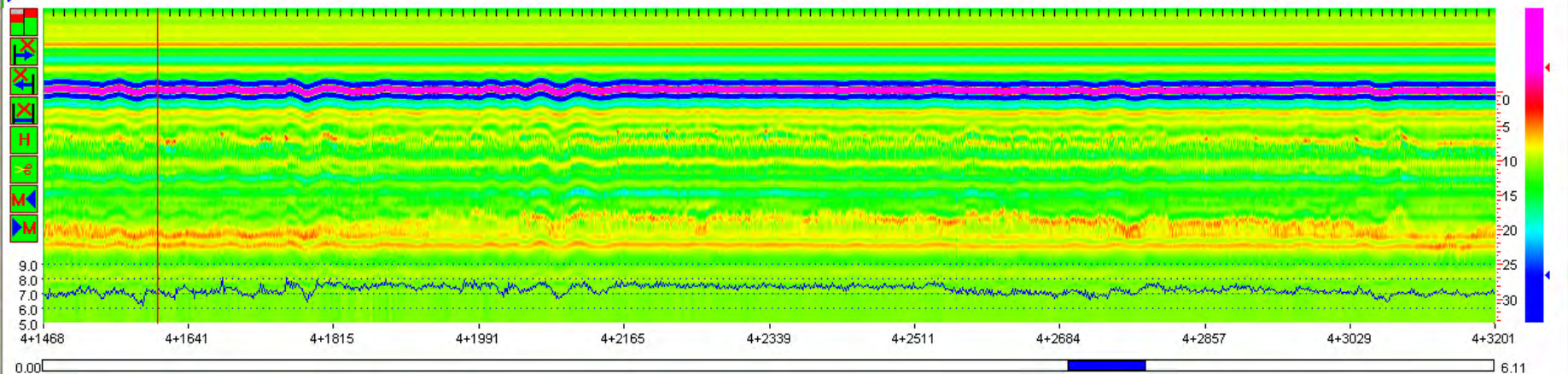




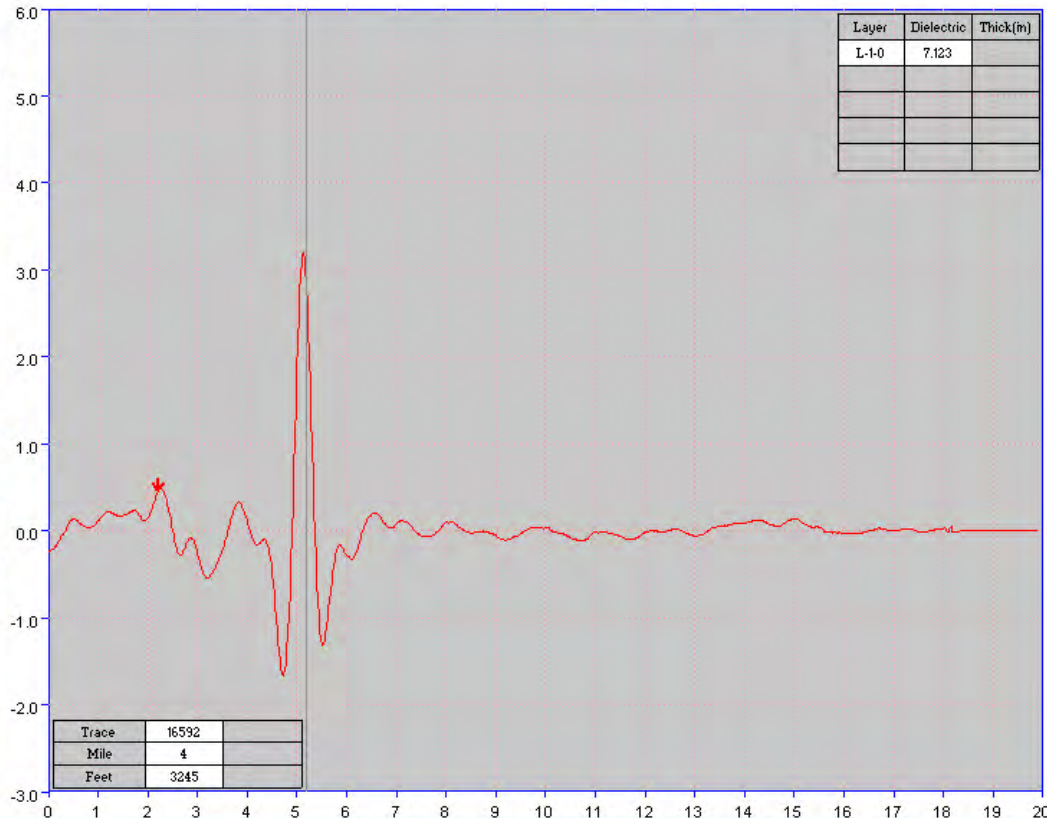
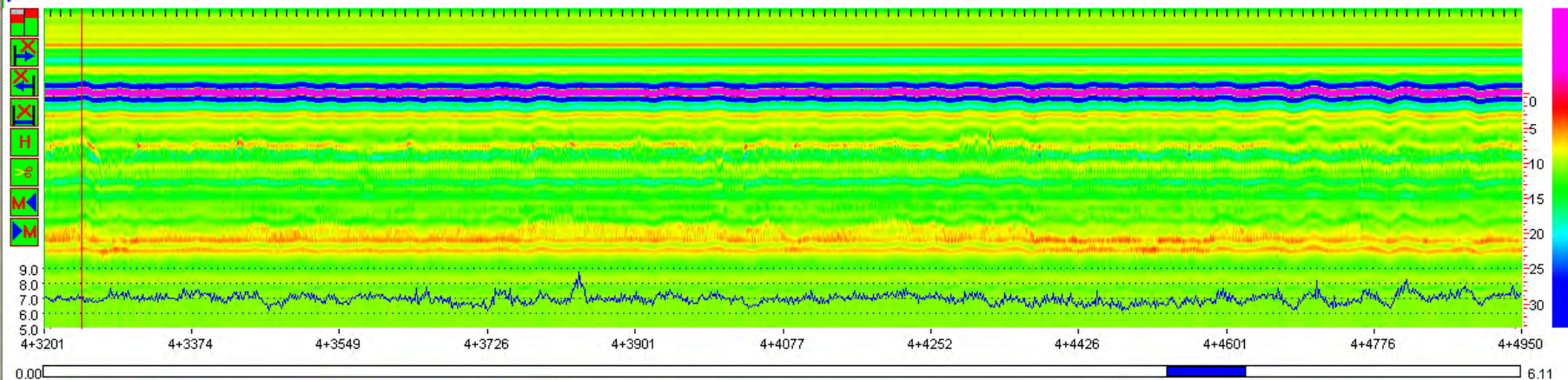




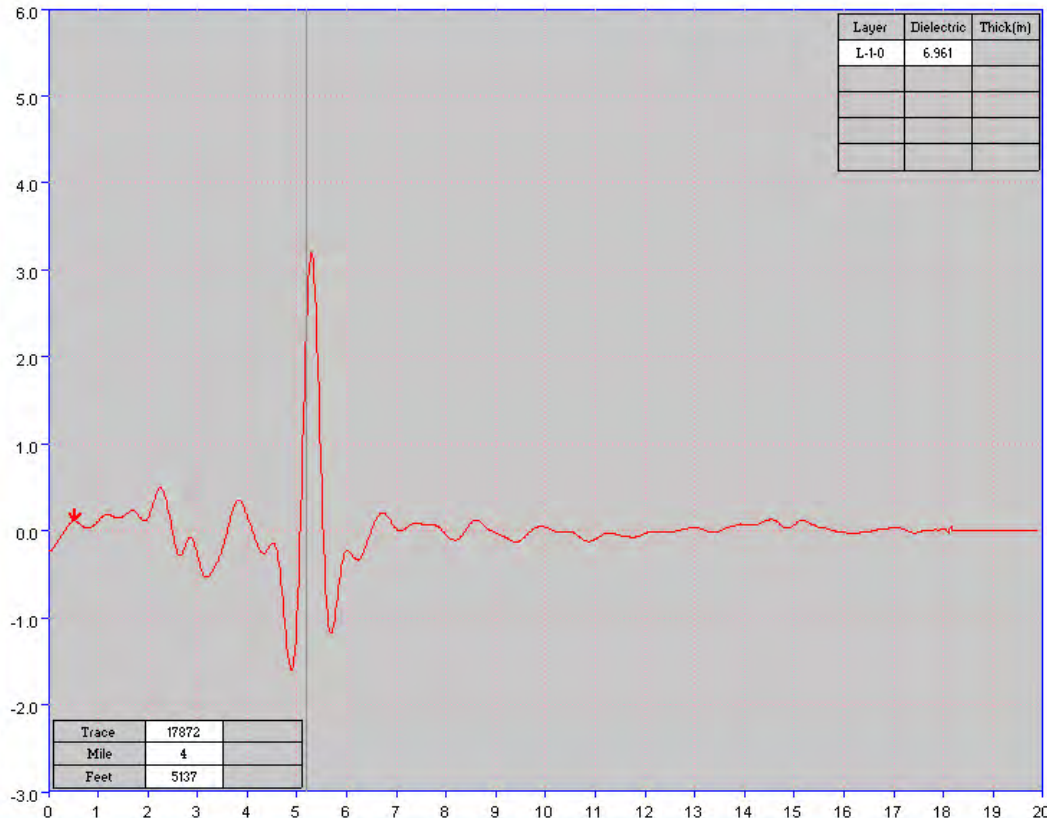
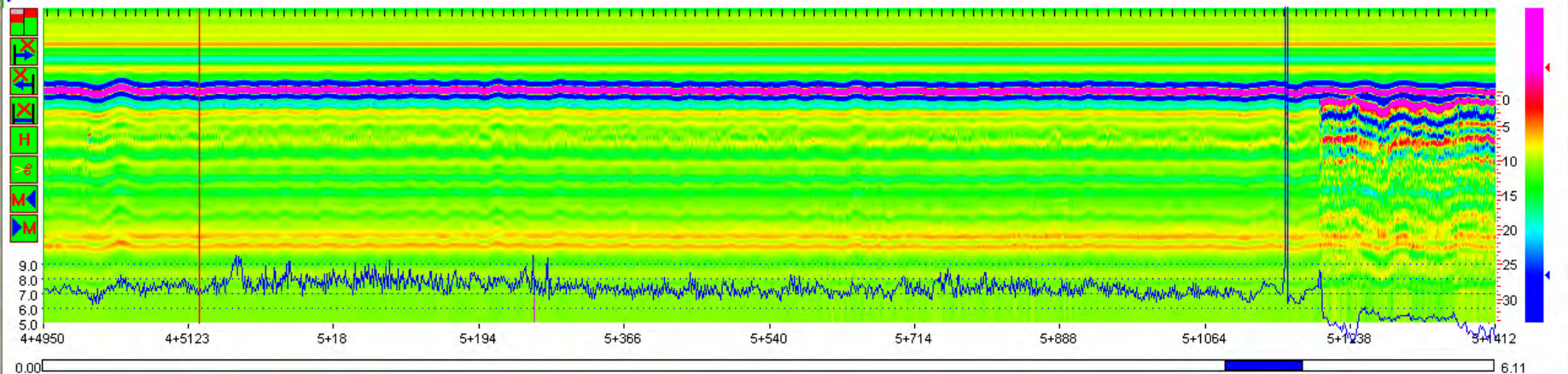






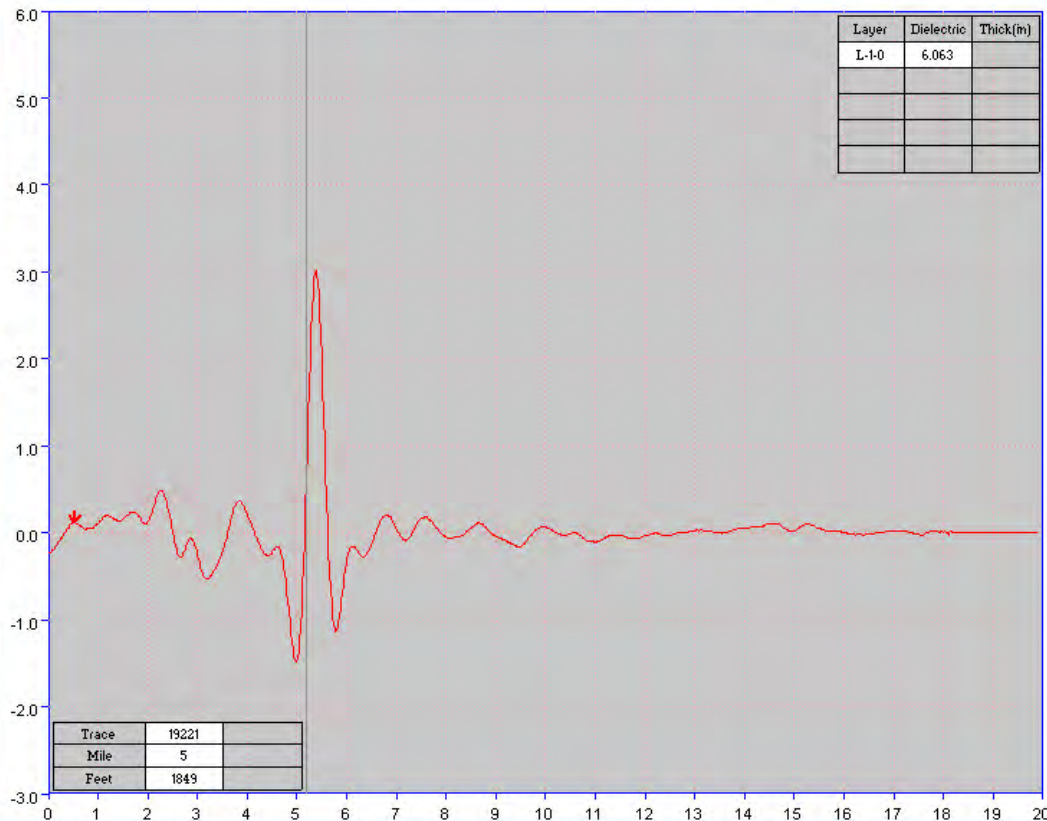
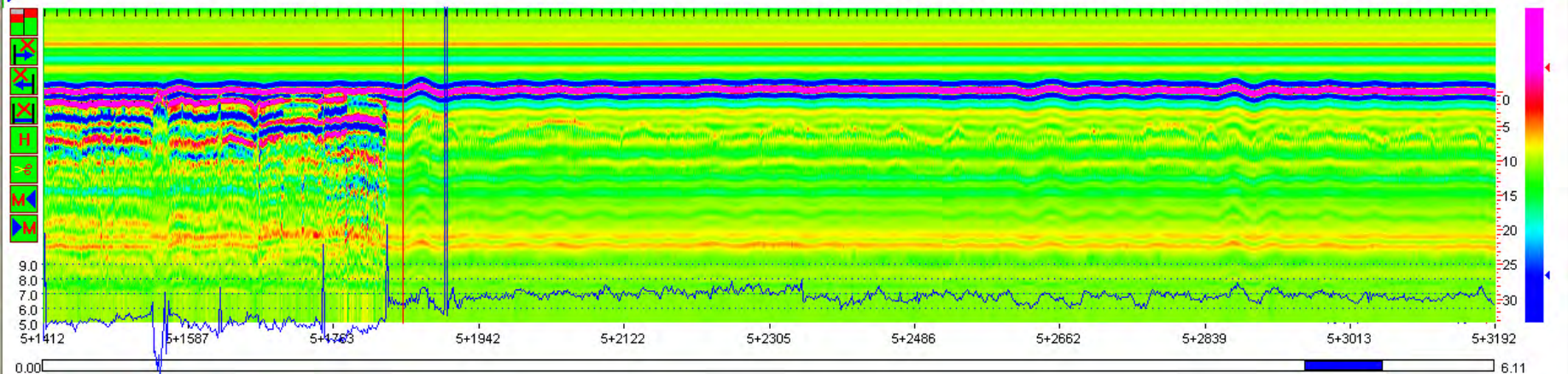




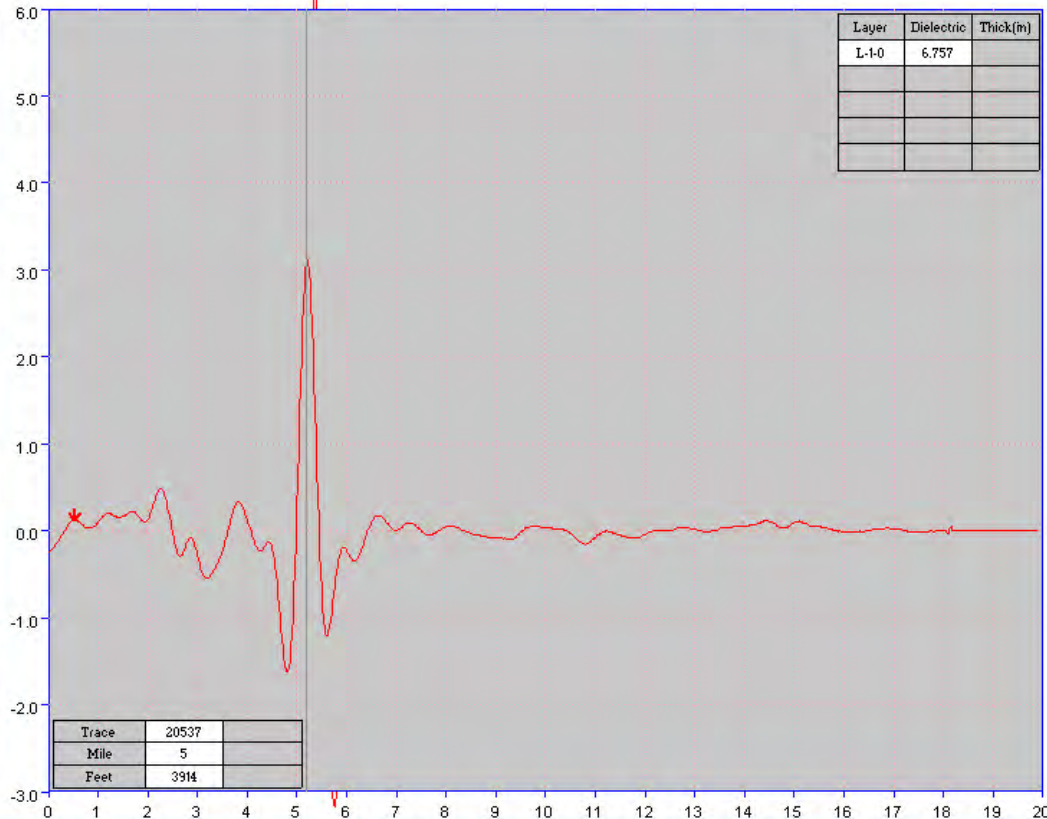
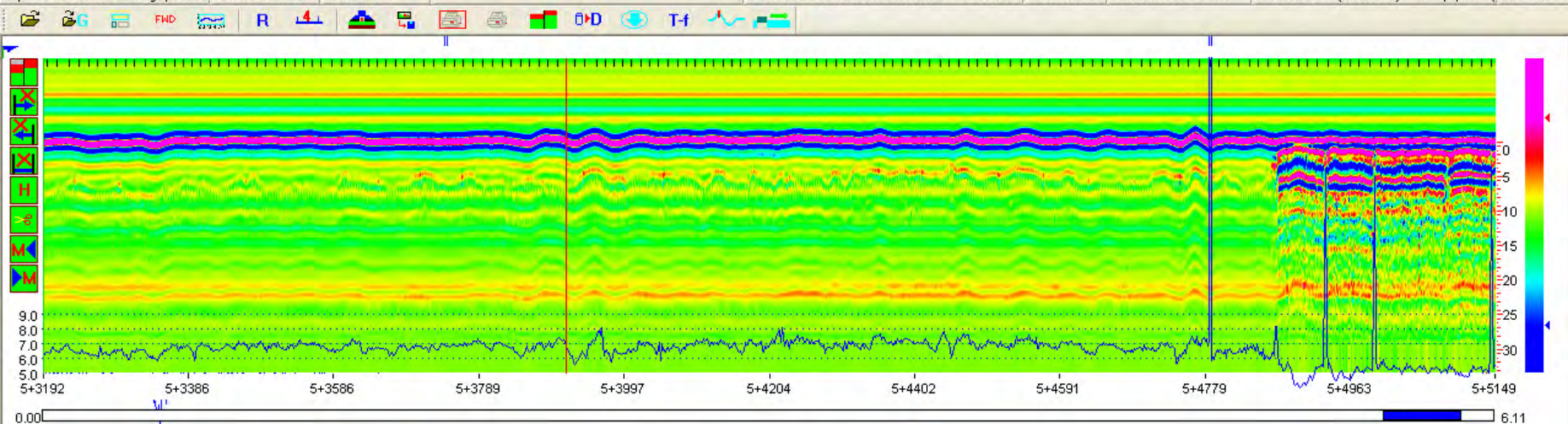


Layer	Dielectric	Thick(m)
L-1-0	6.961	

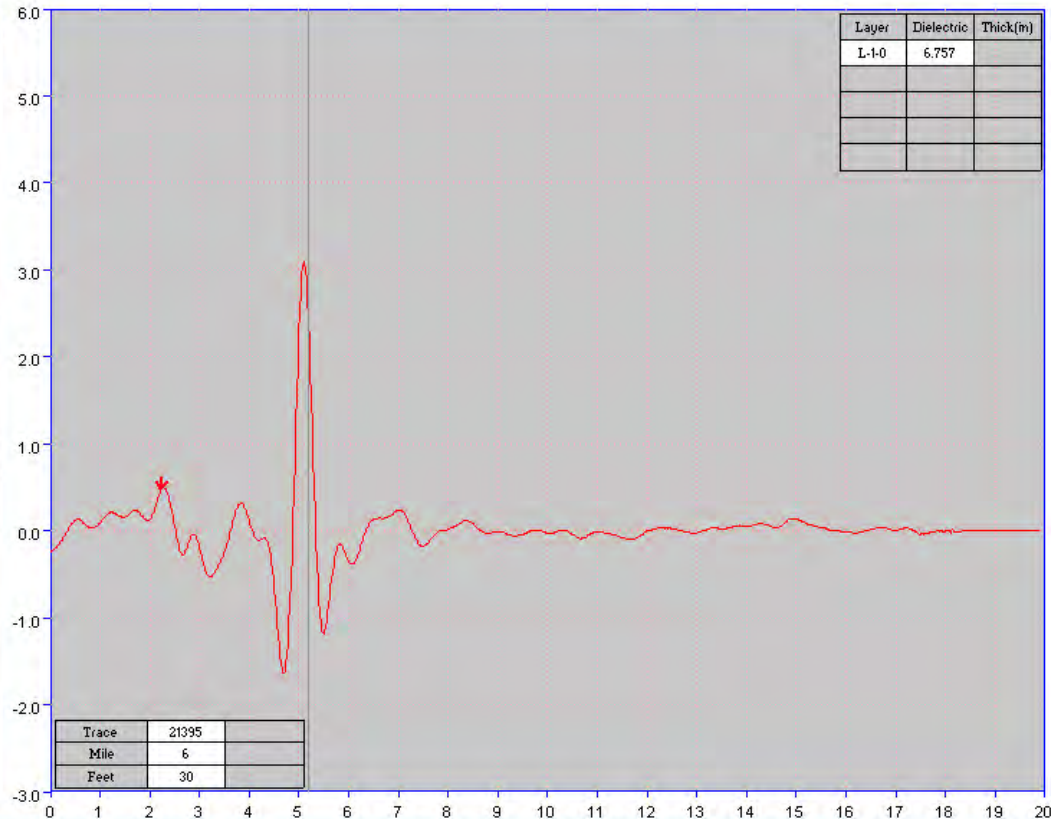
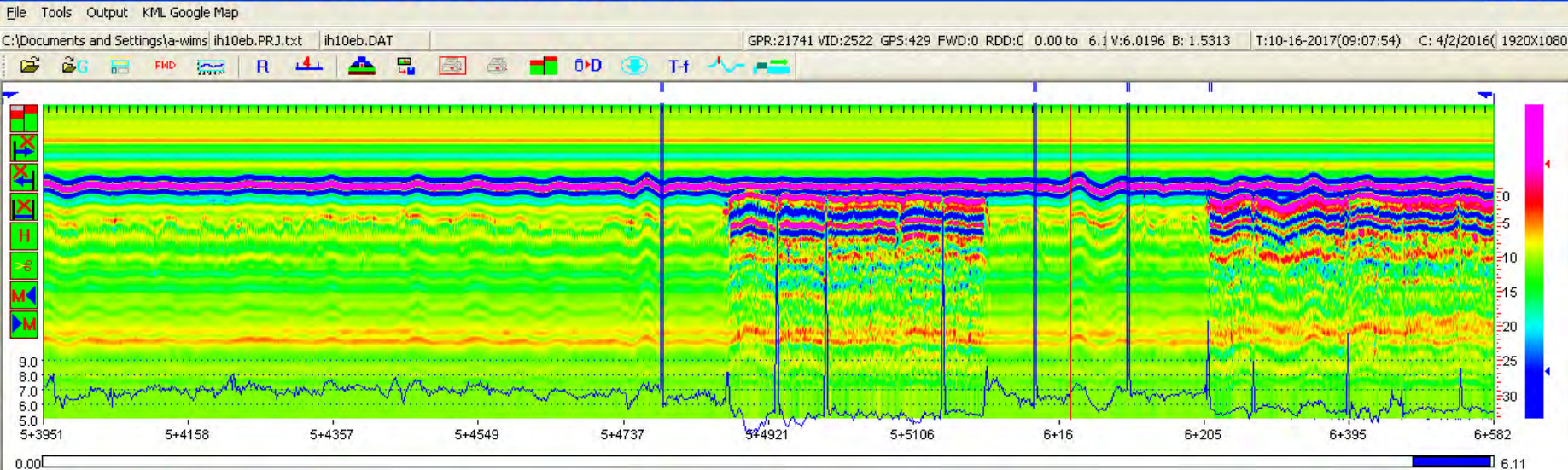






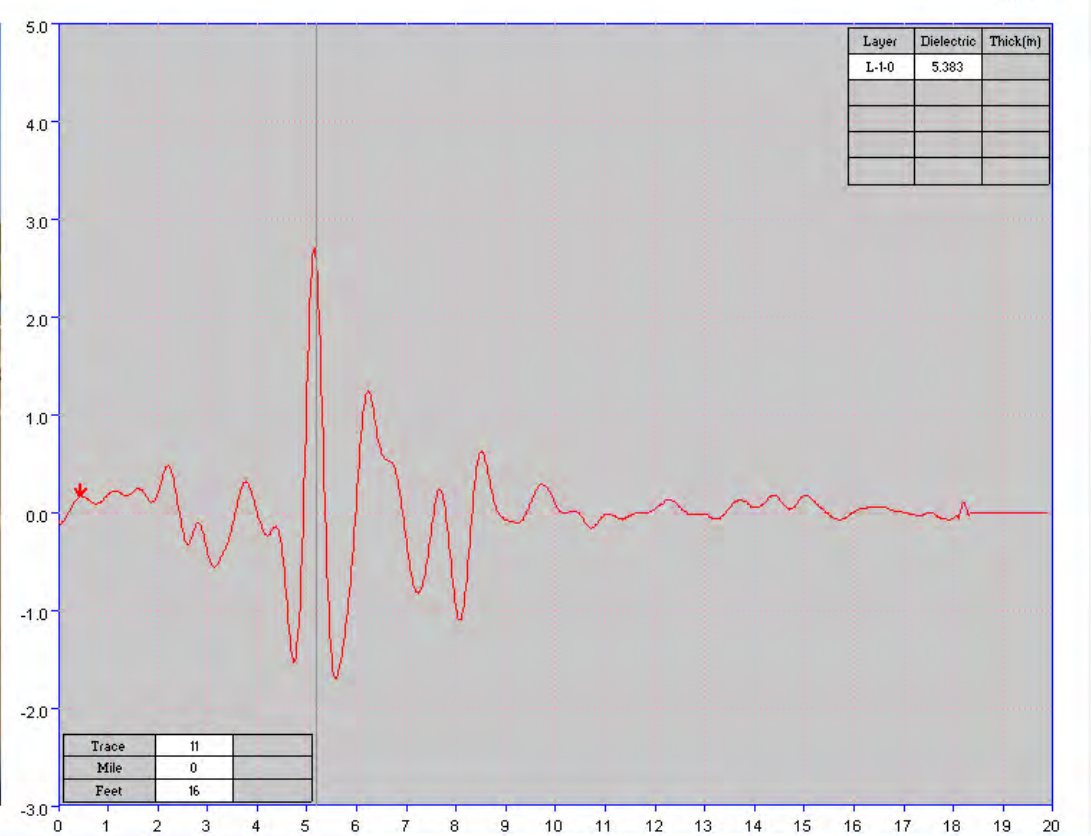
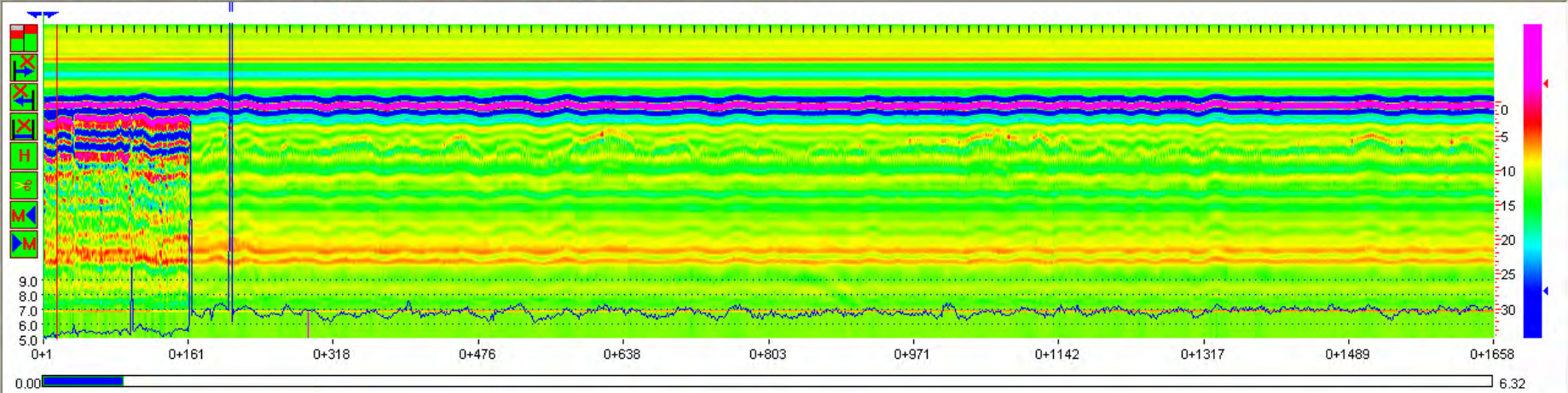




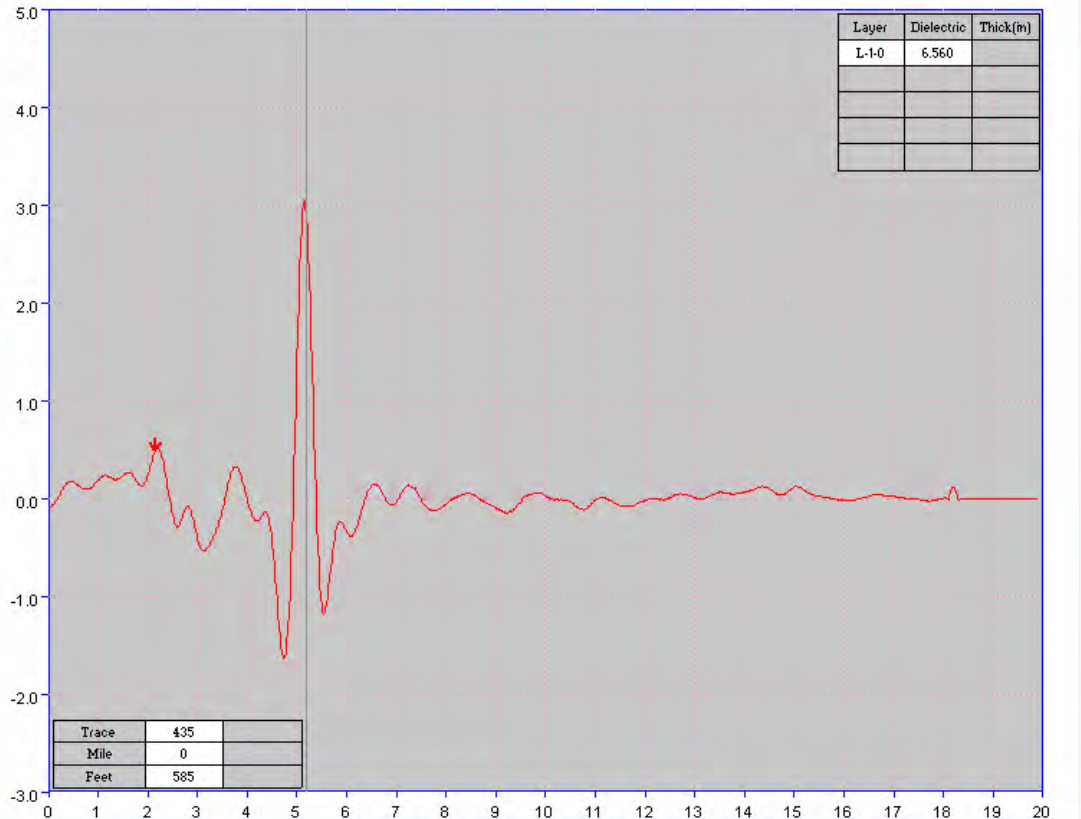
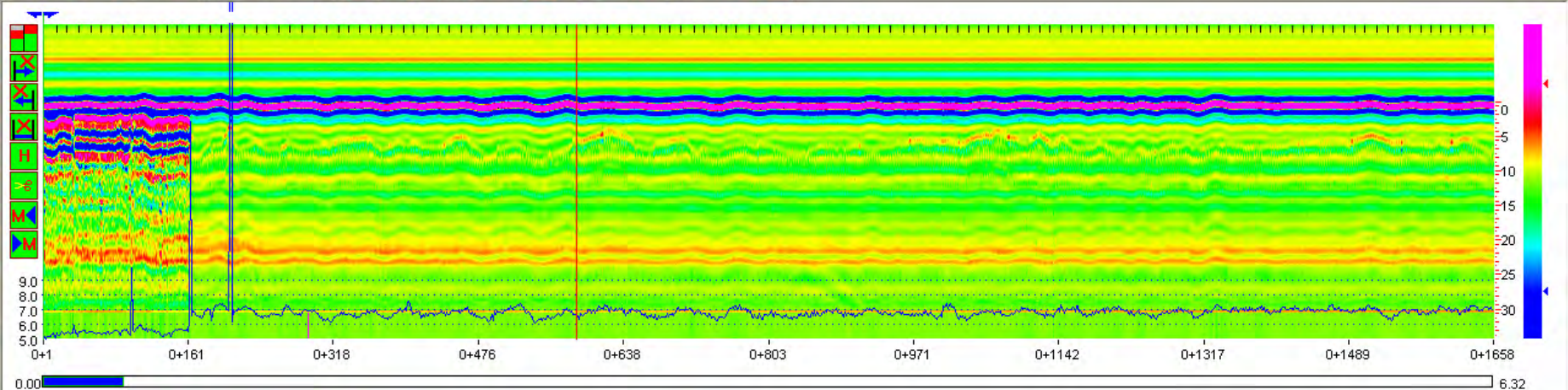




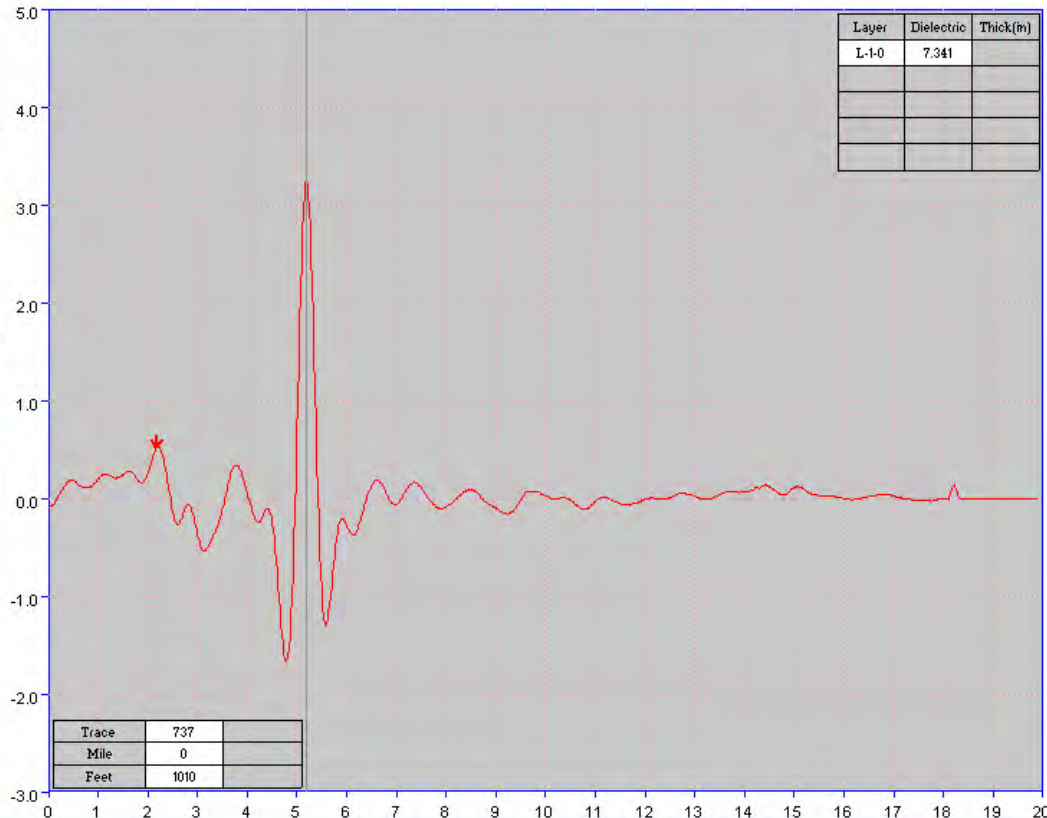
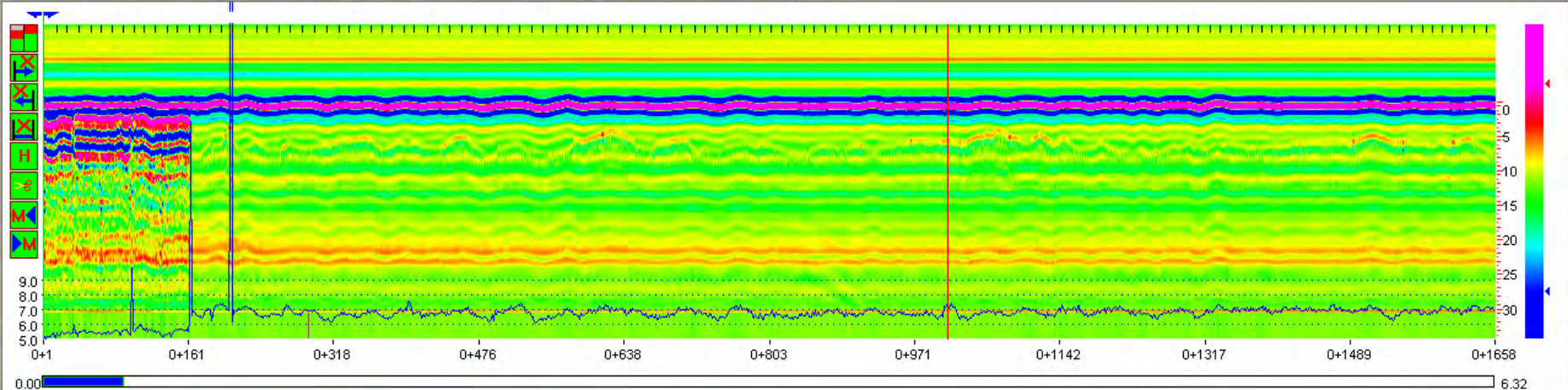
# **IH 10 Westbound Ground Penetrating Radar Data October, 2017**



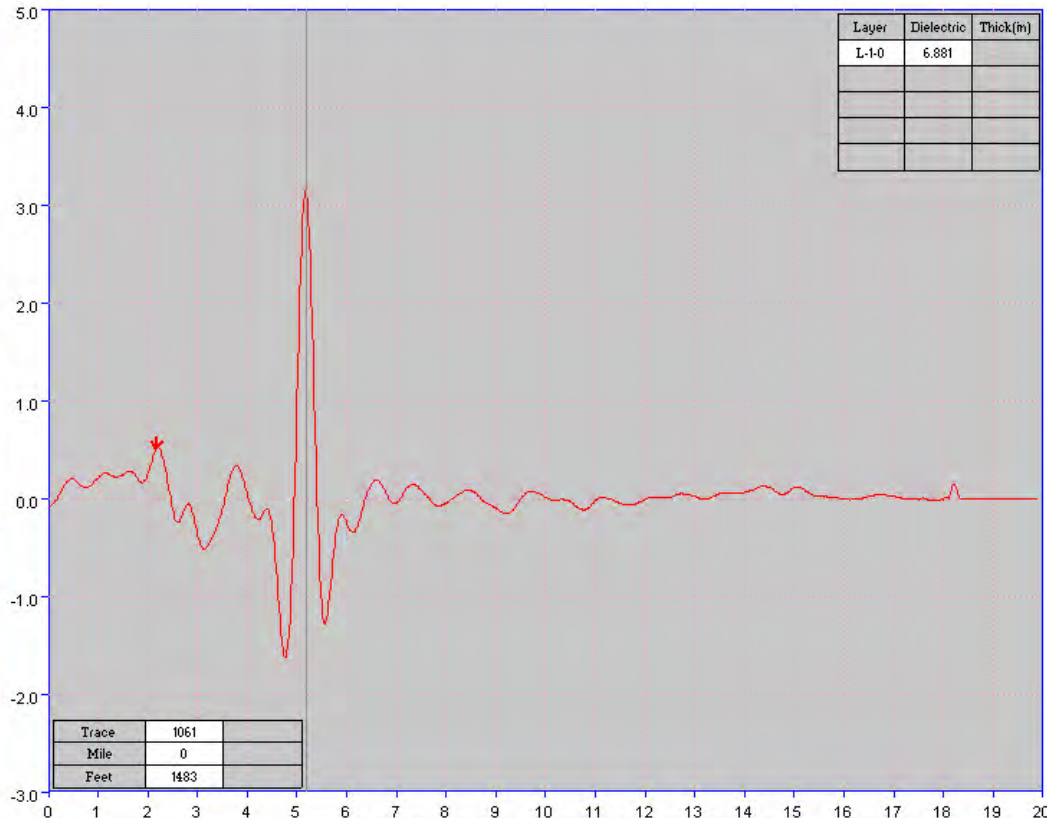
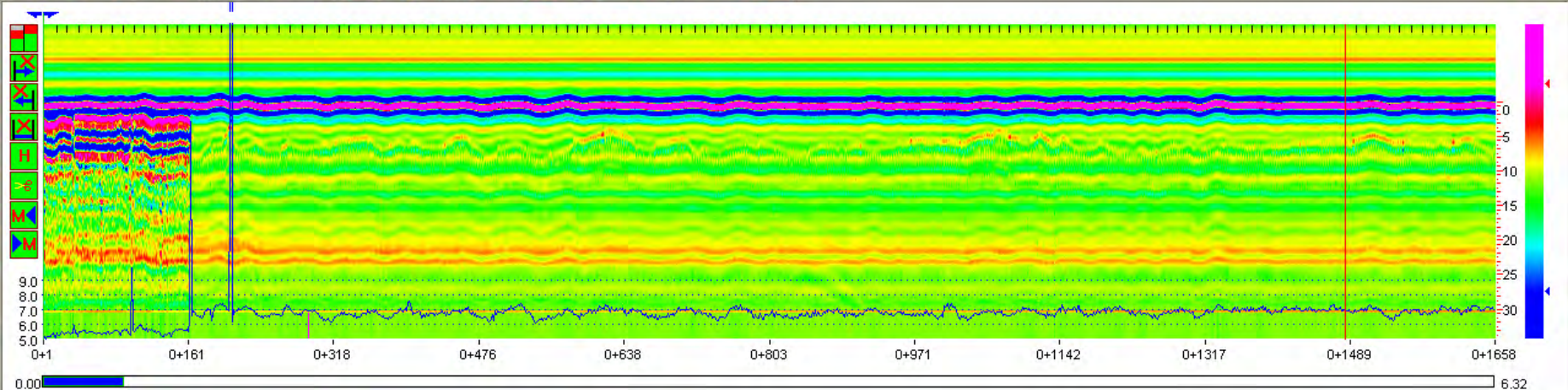




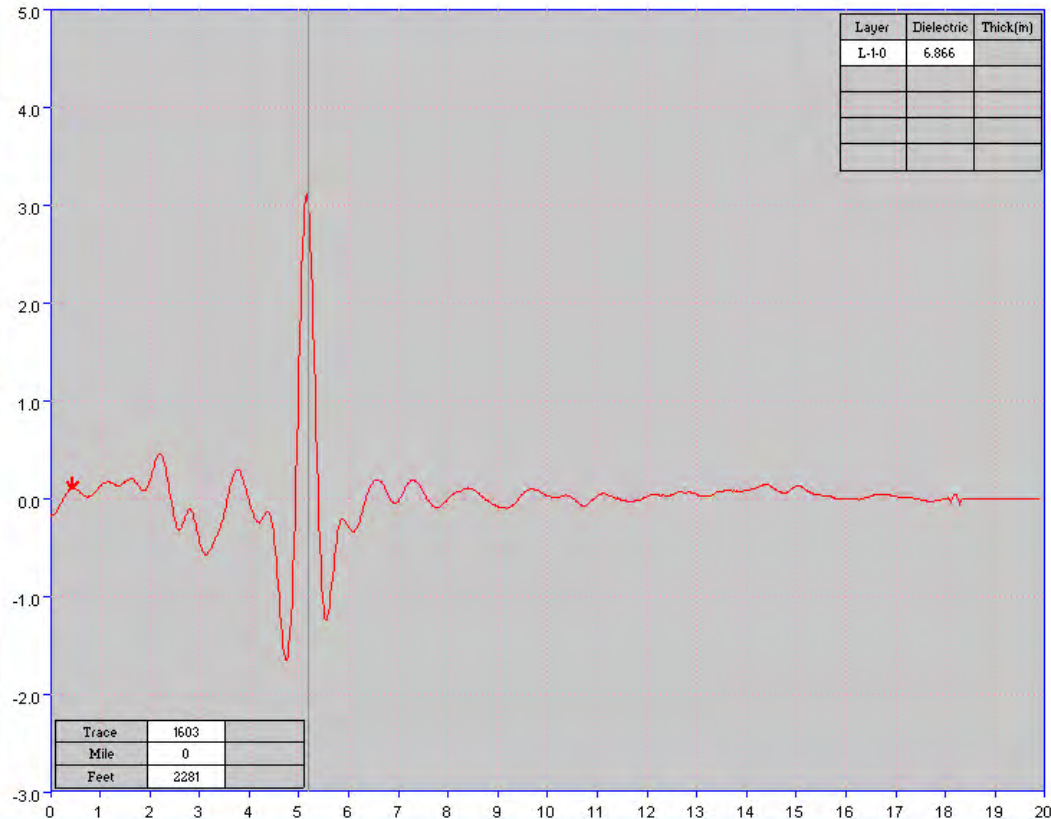
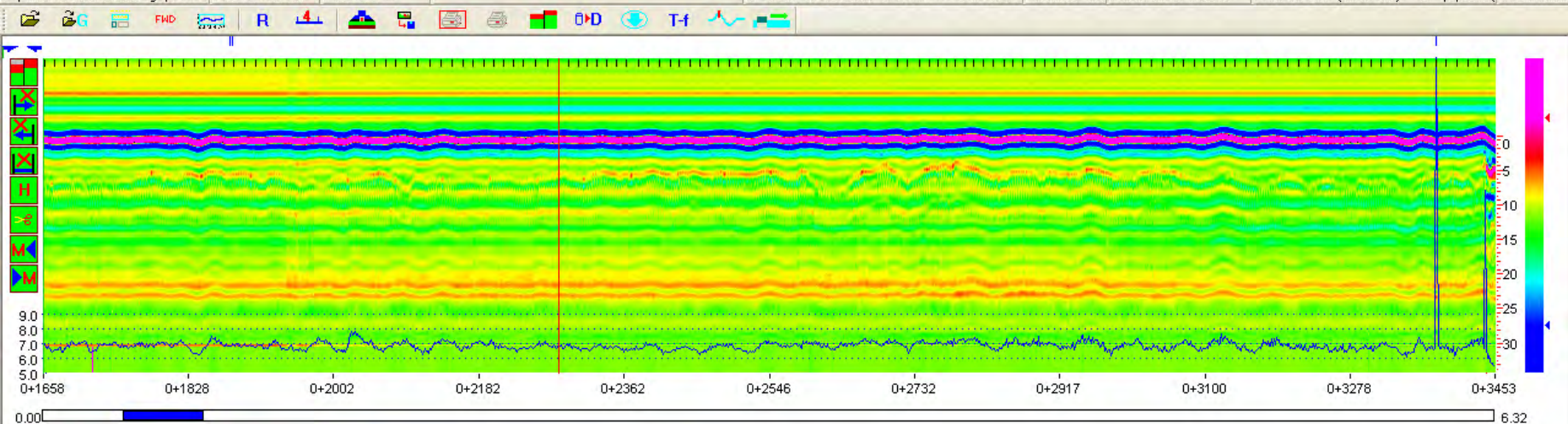




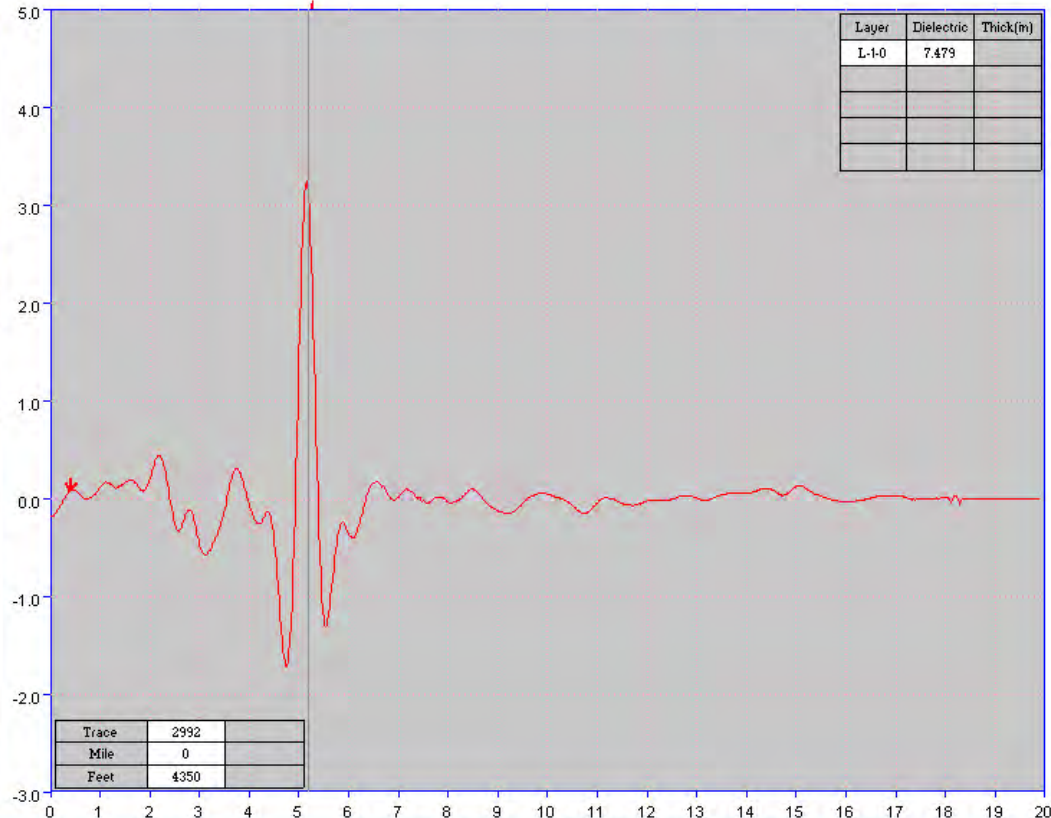
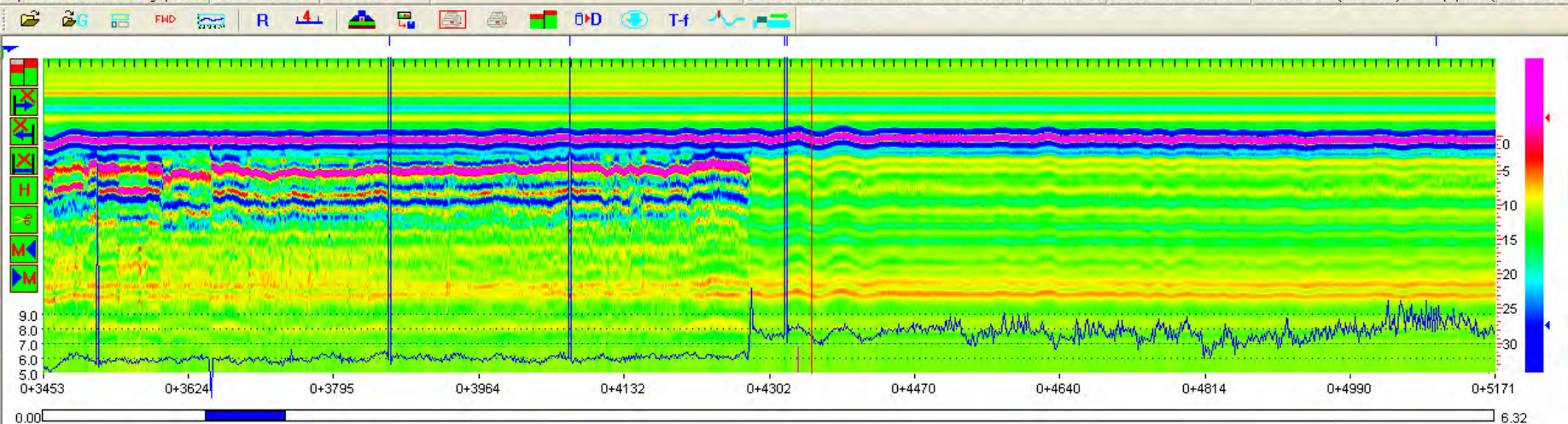




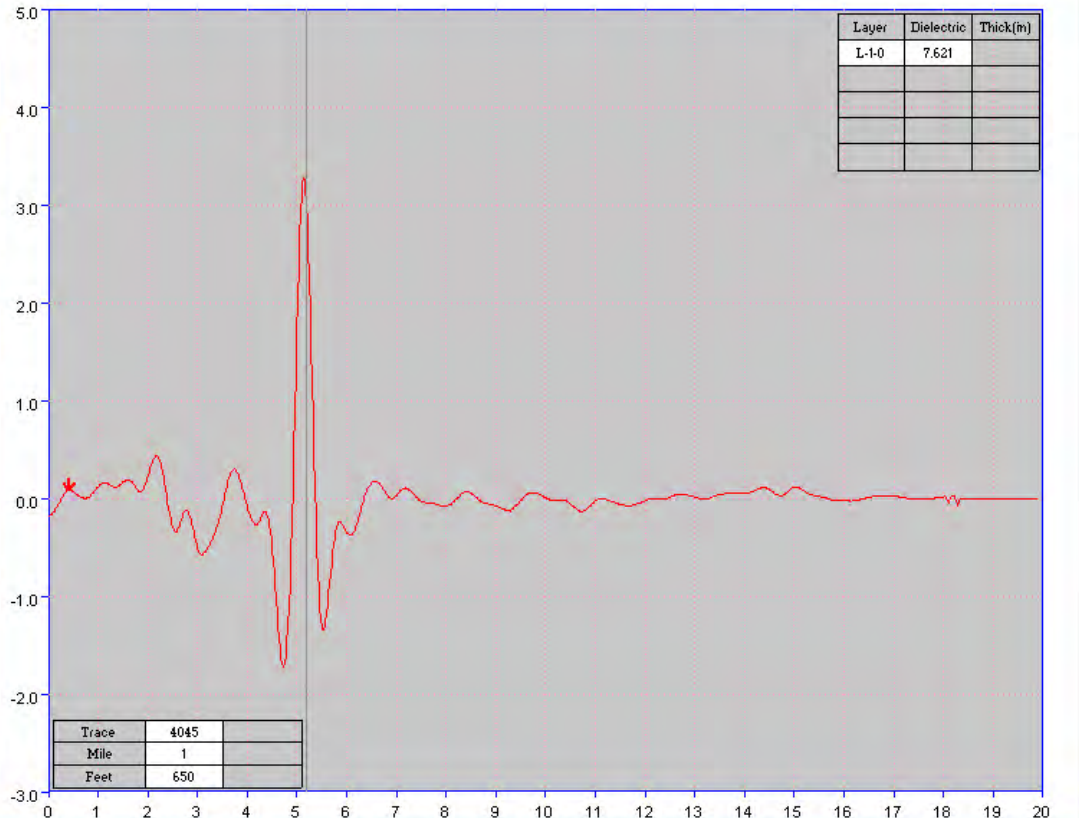
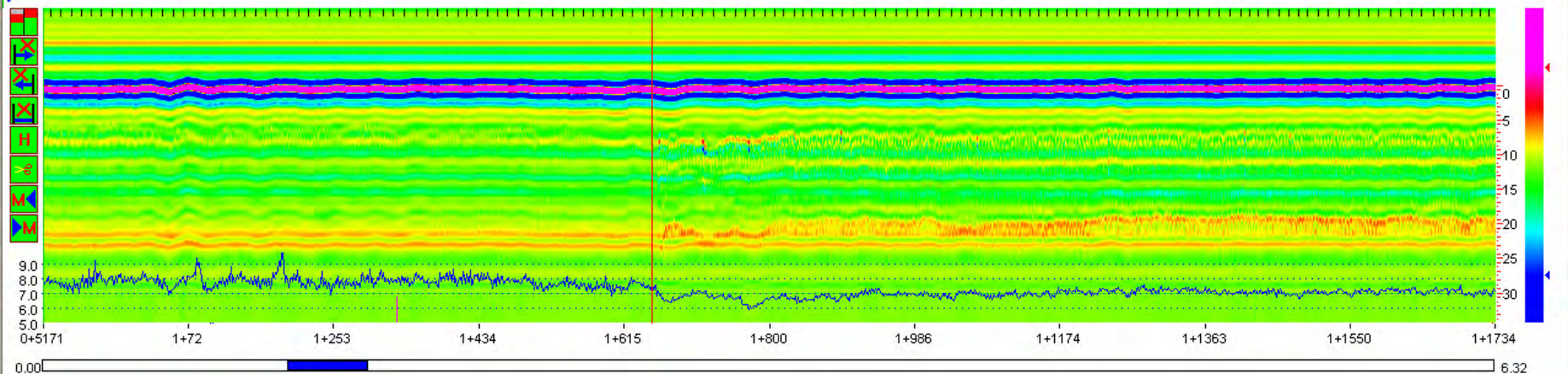




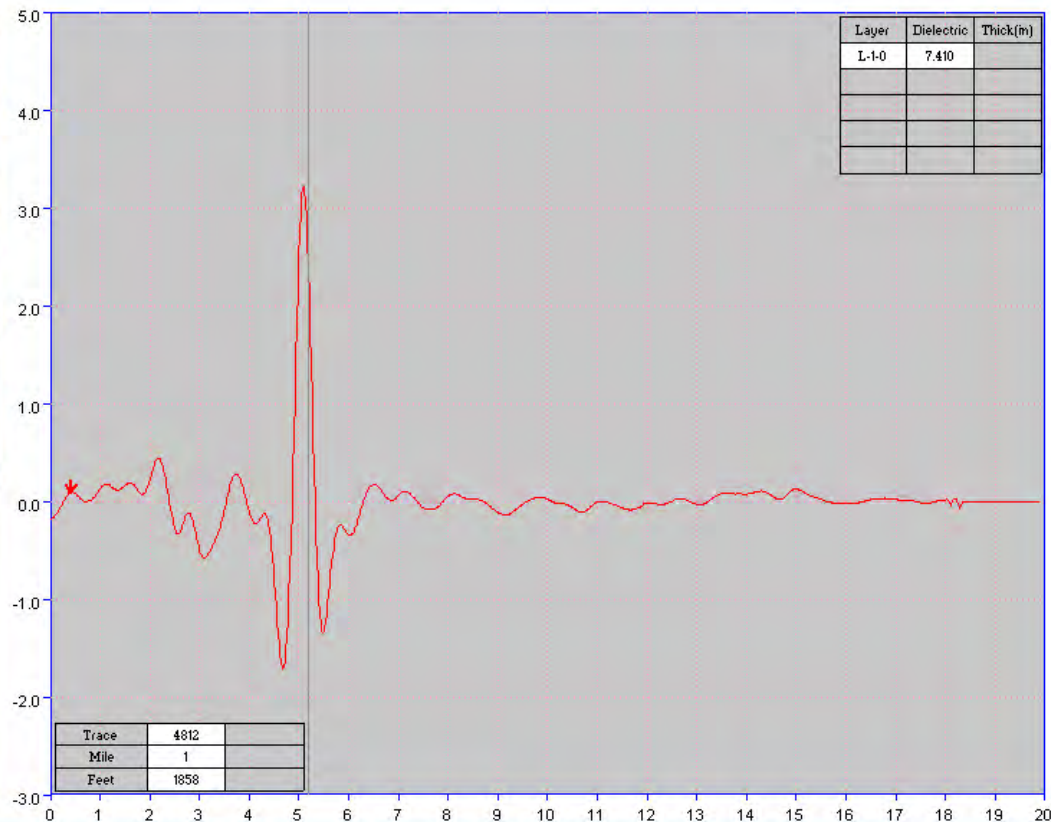
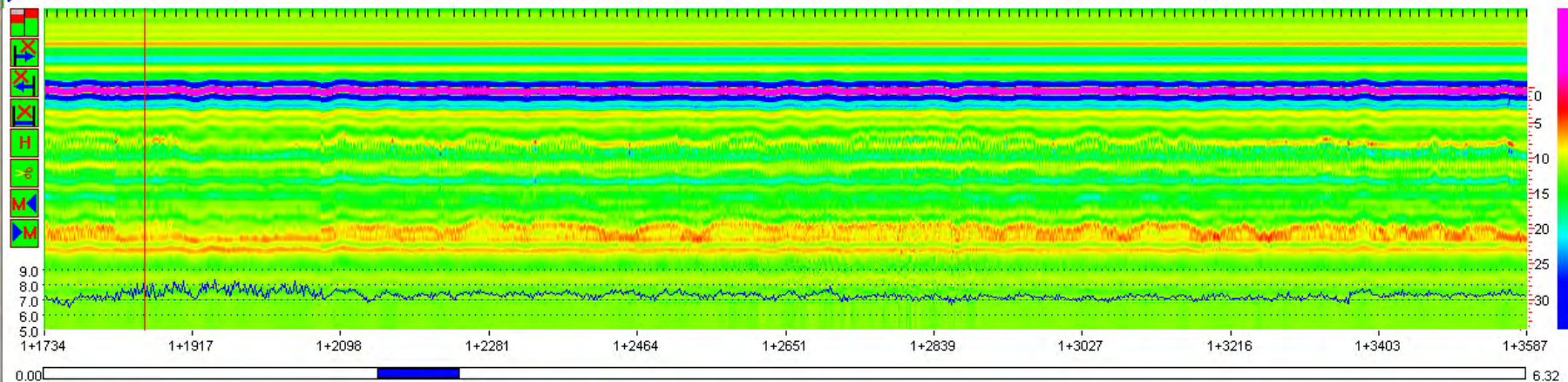




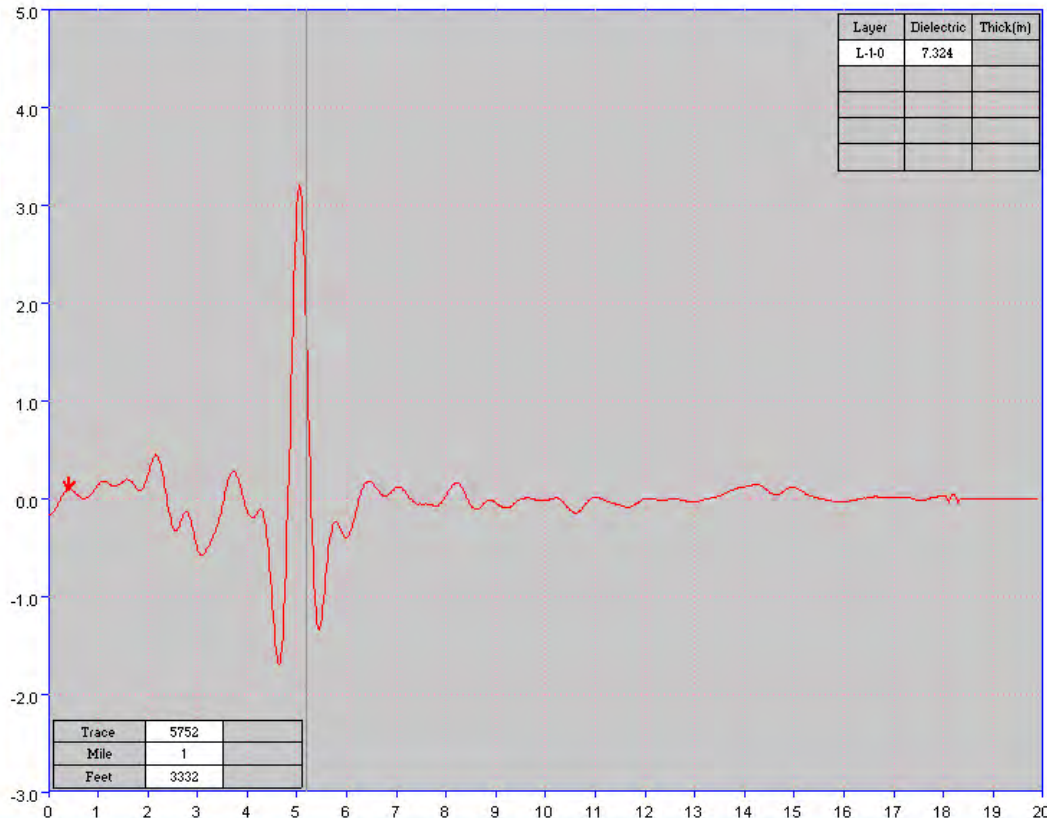
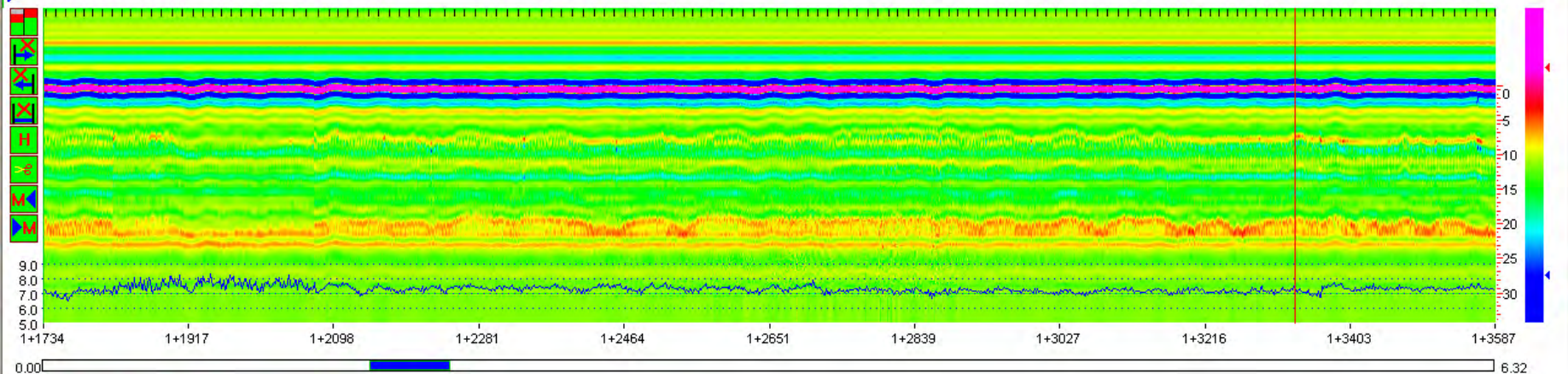




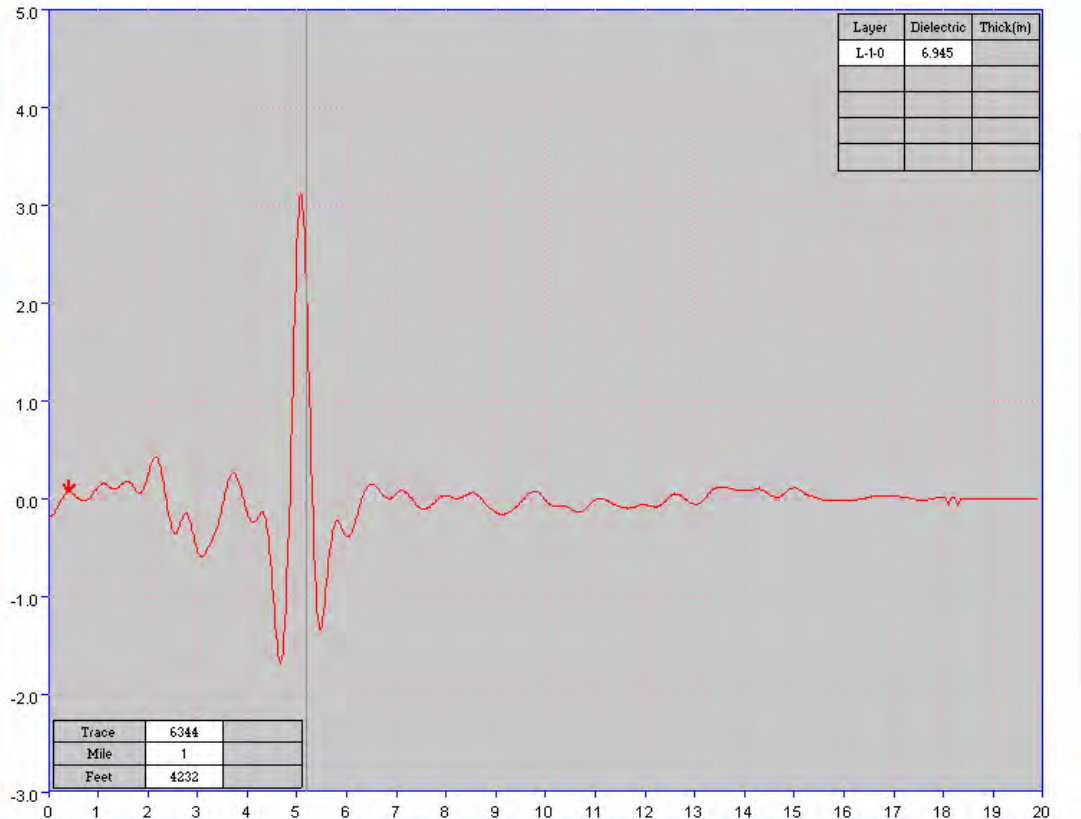
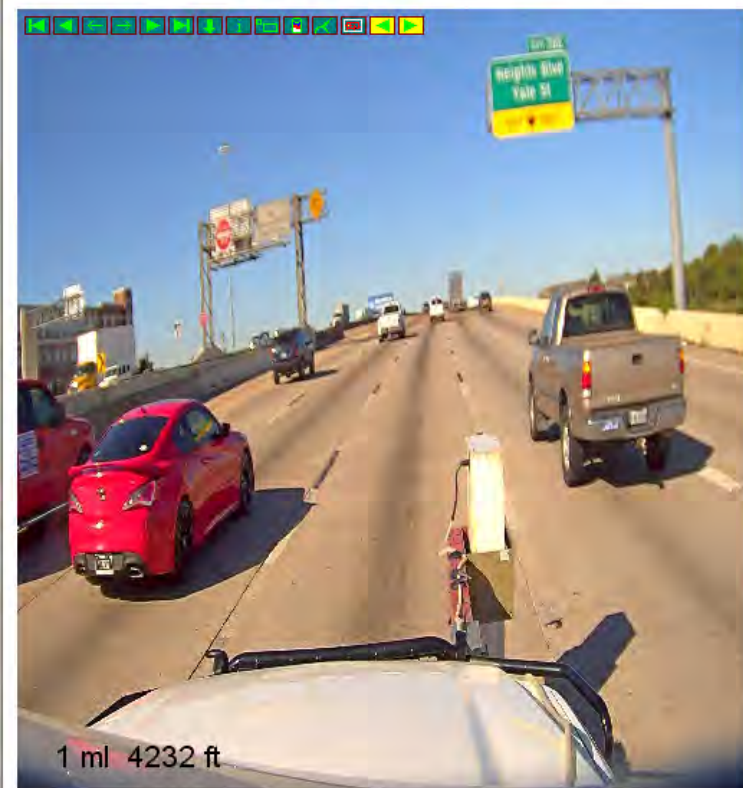
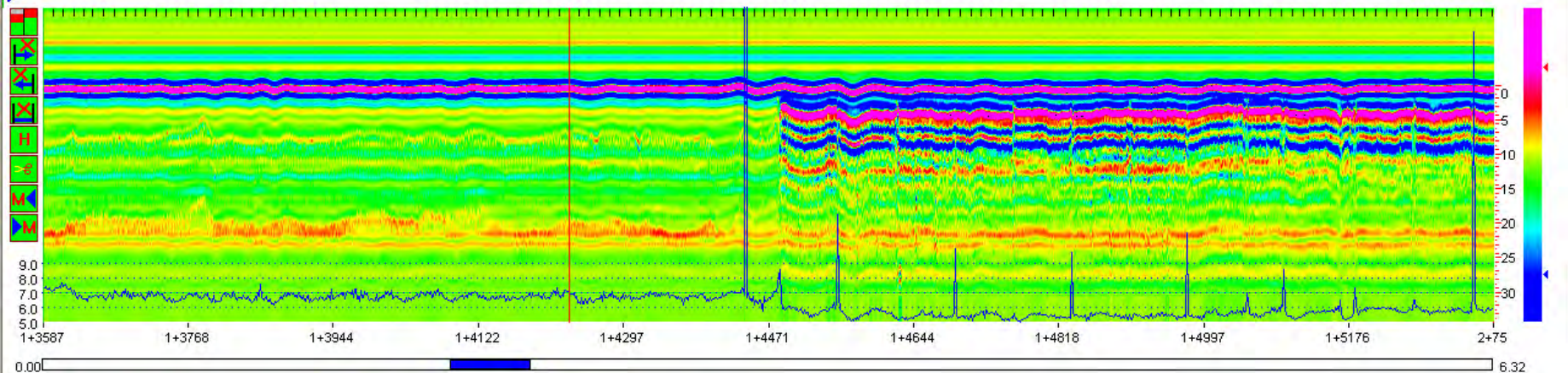




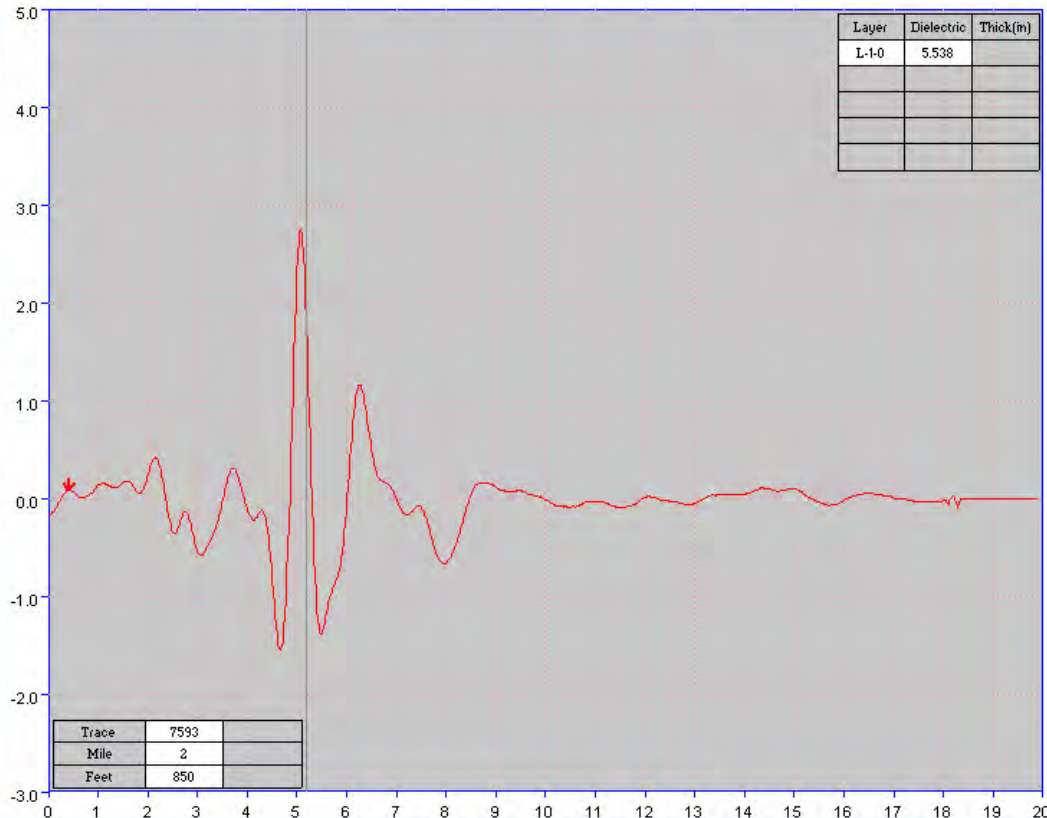
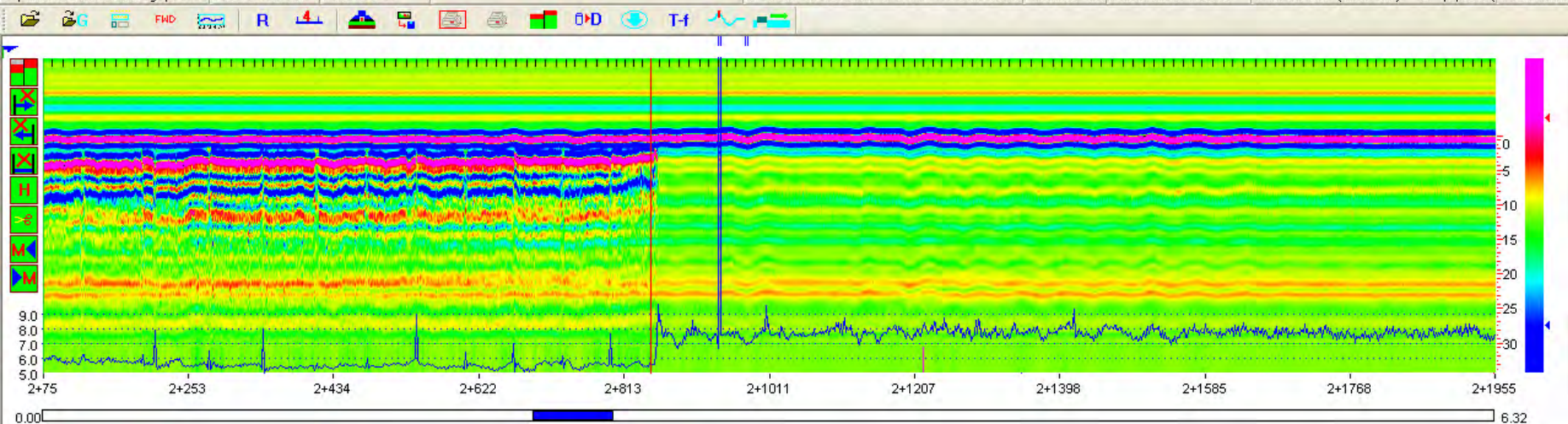




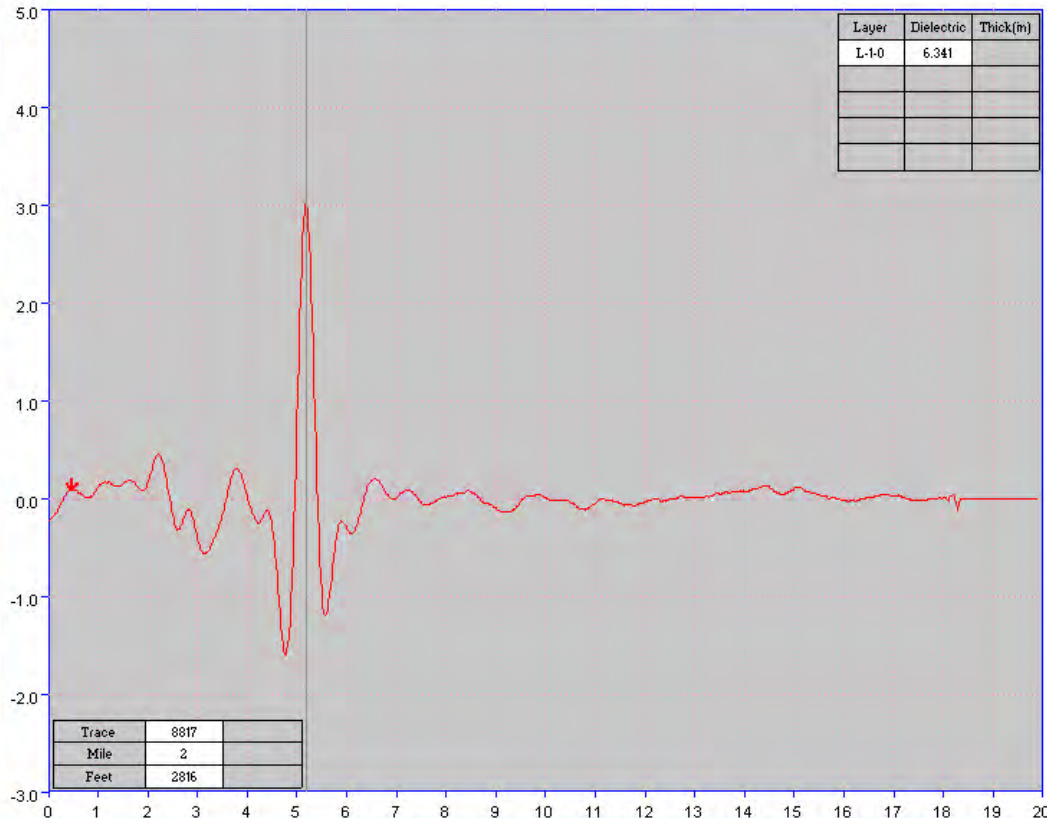
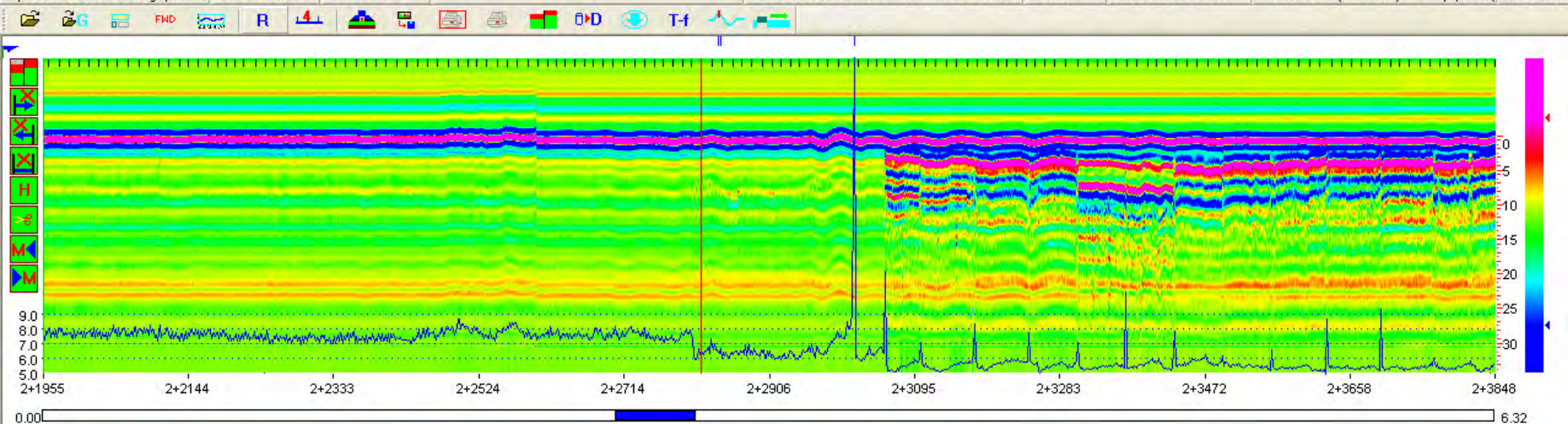




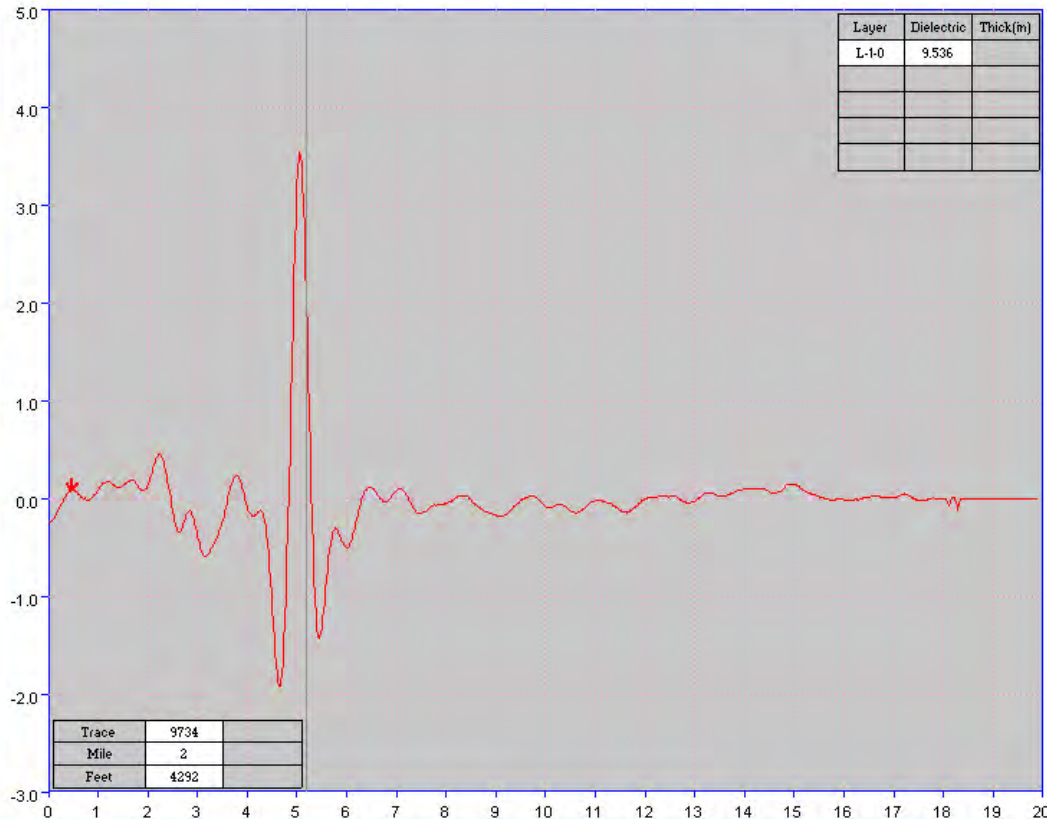
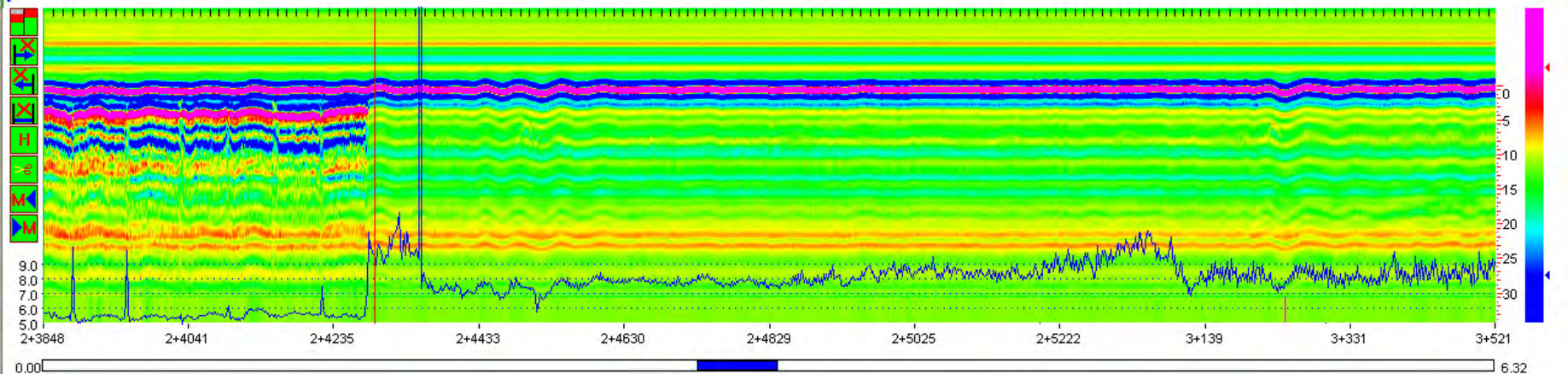




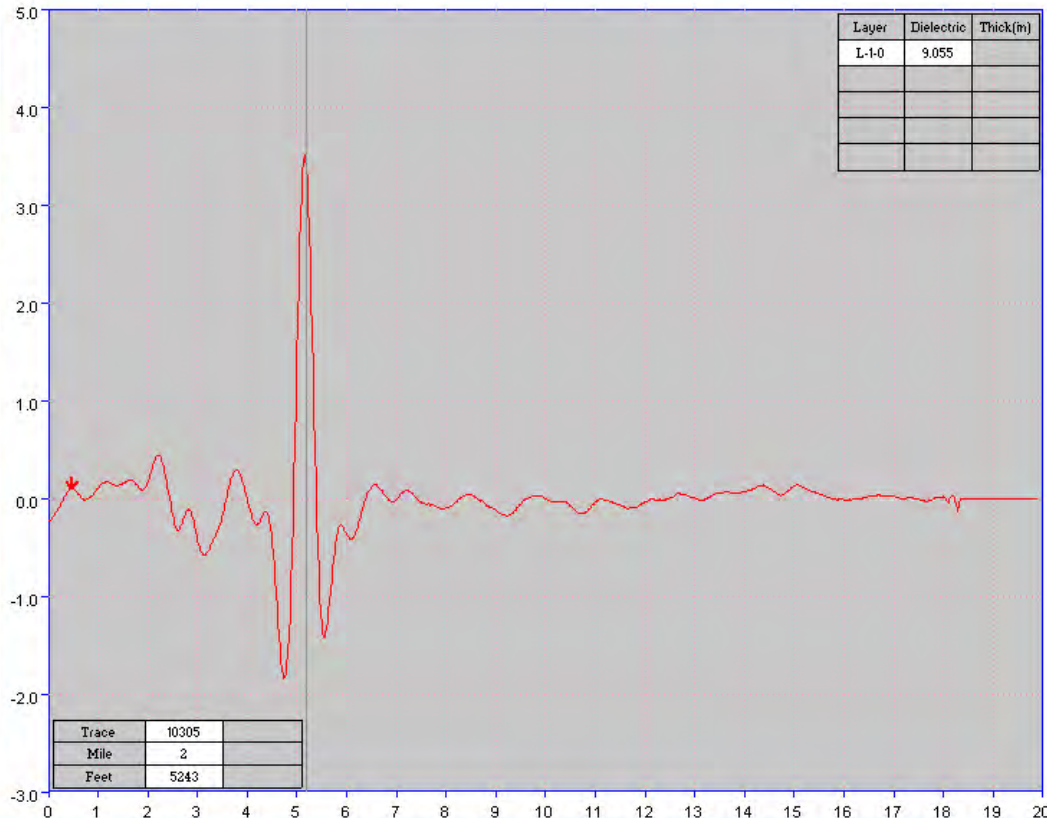
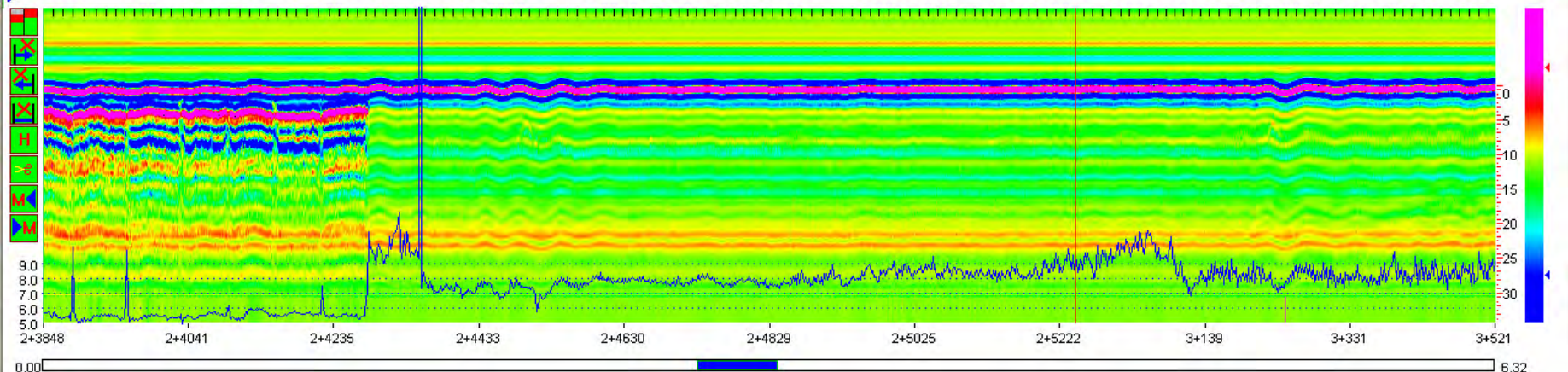




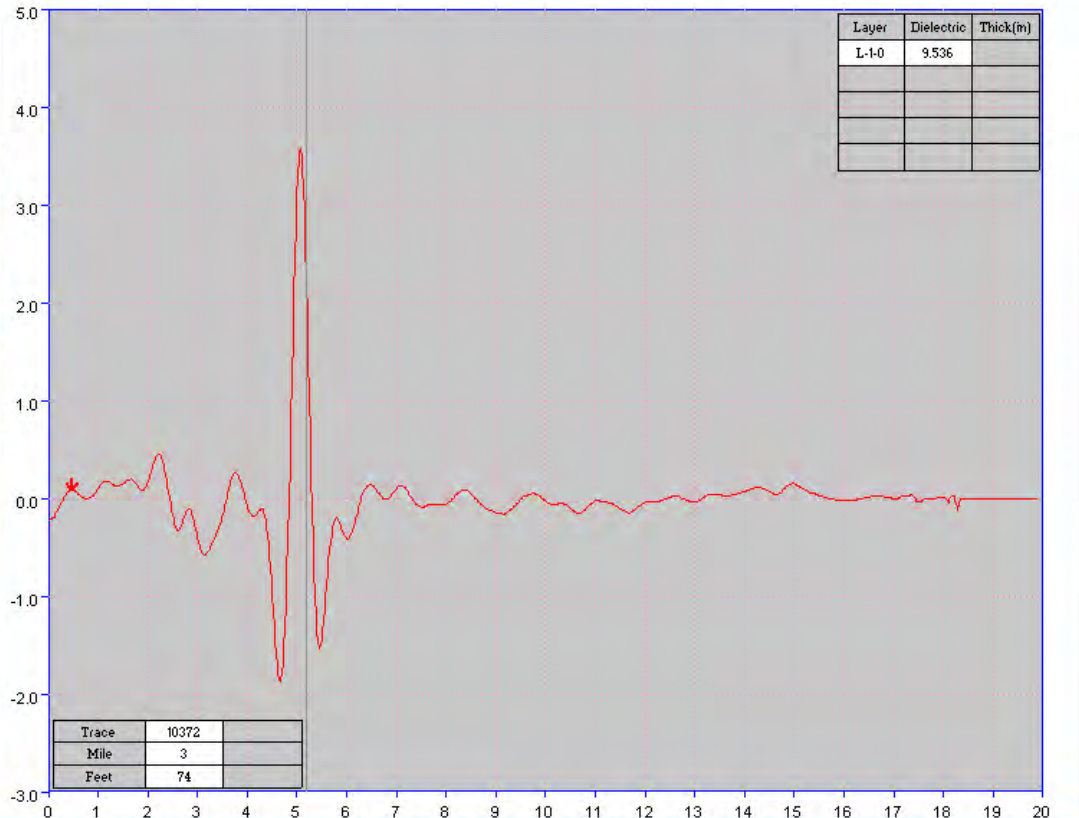
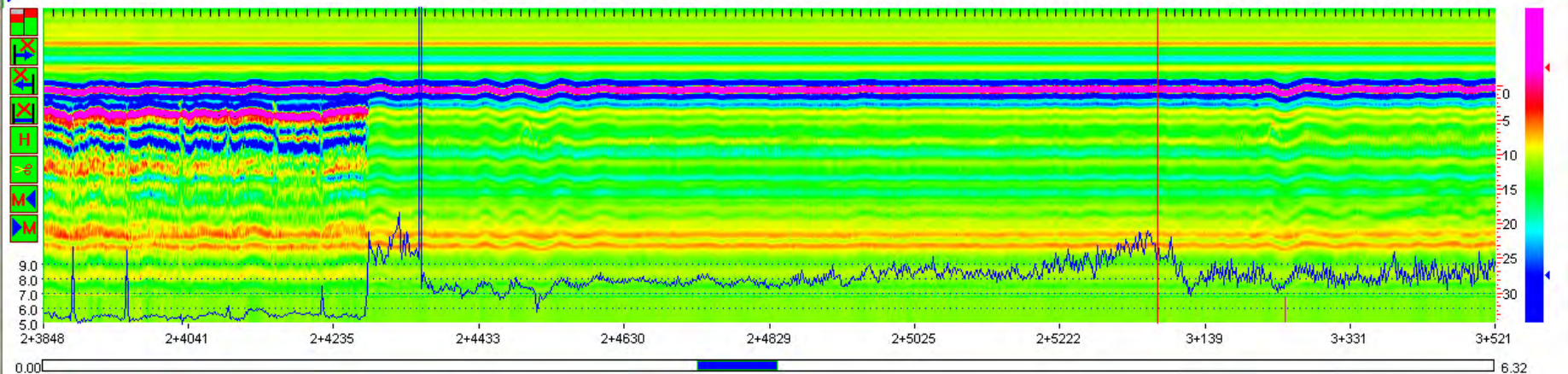




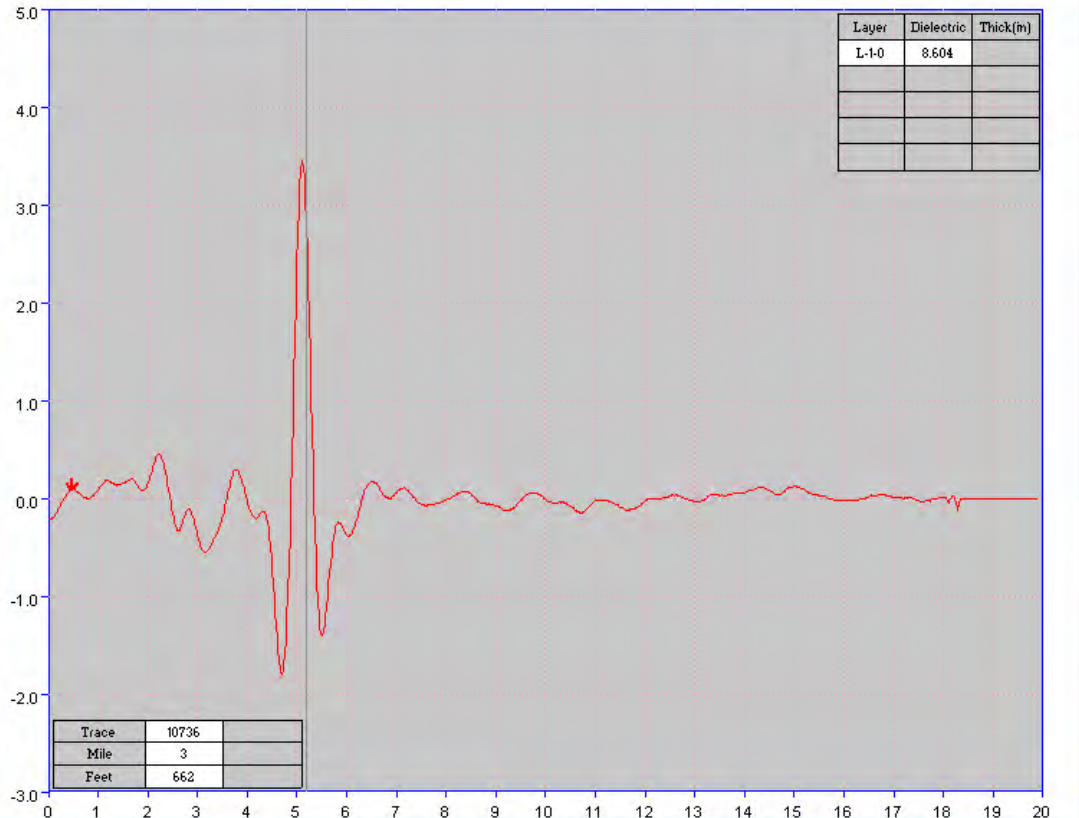
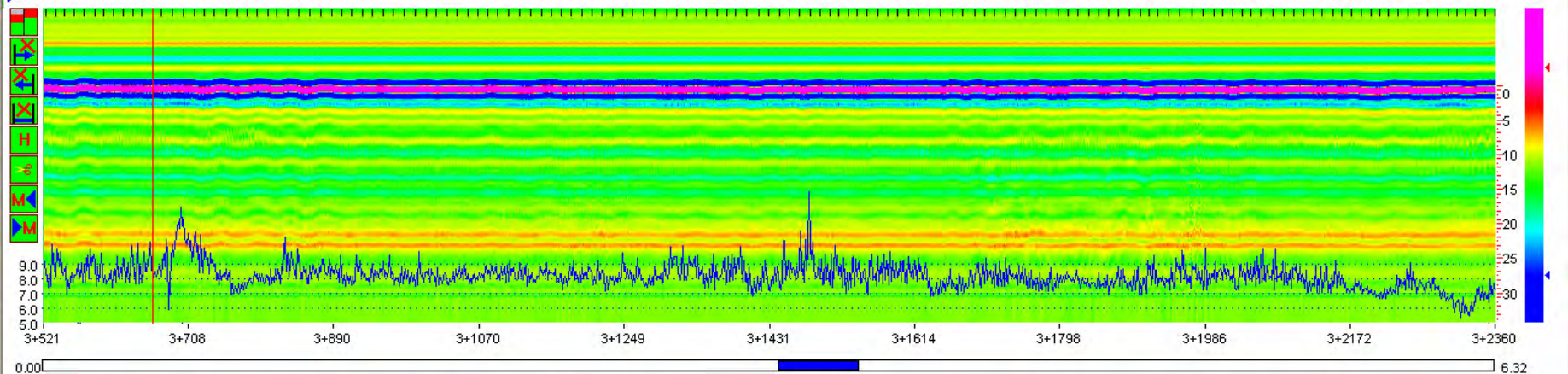




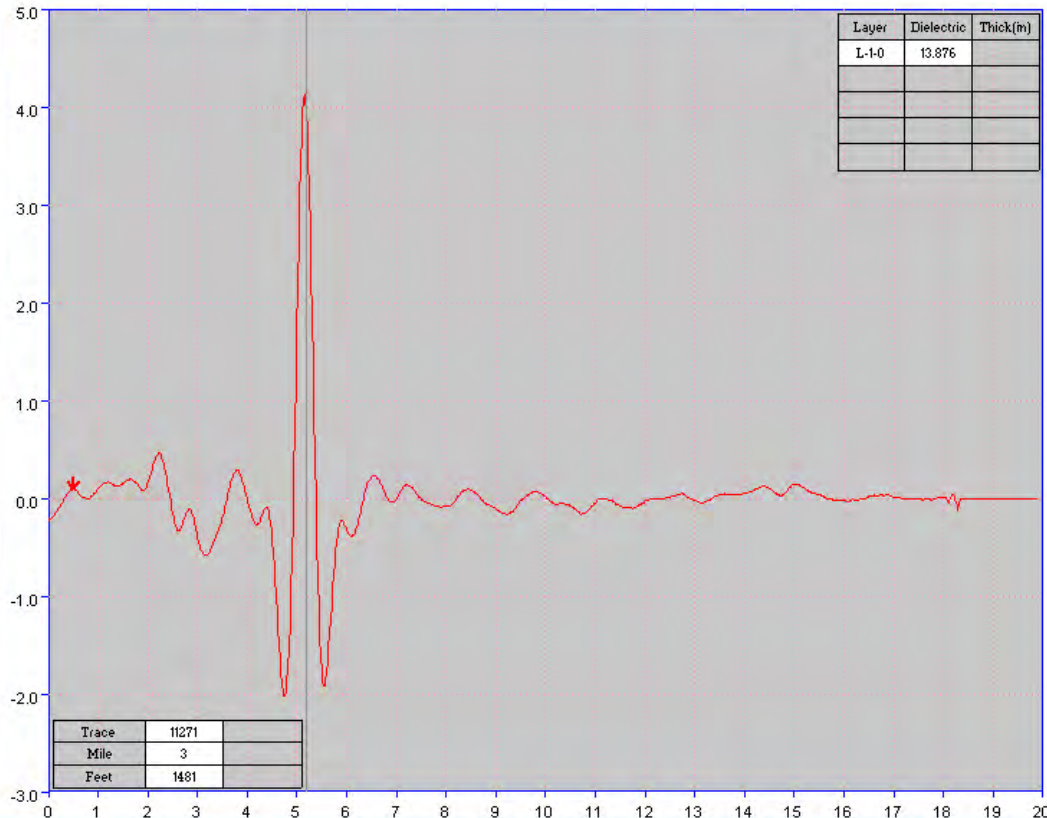
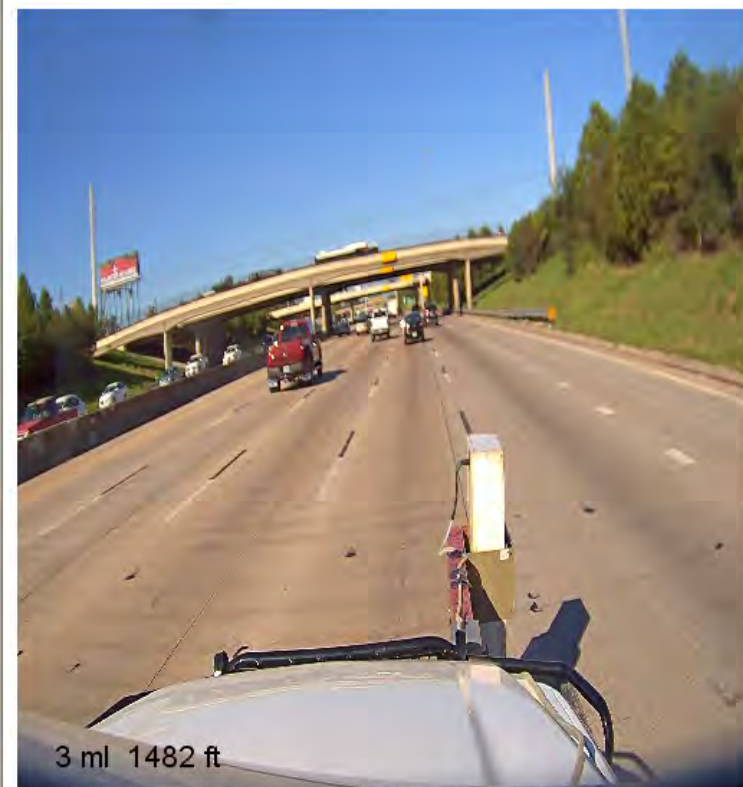
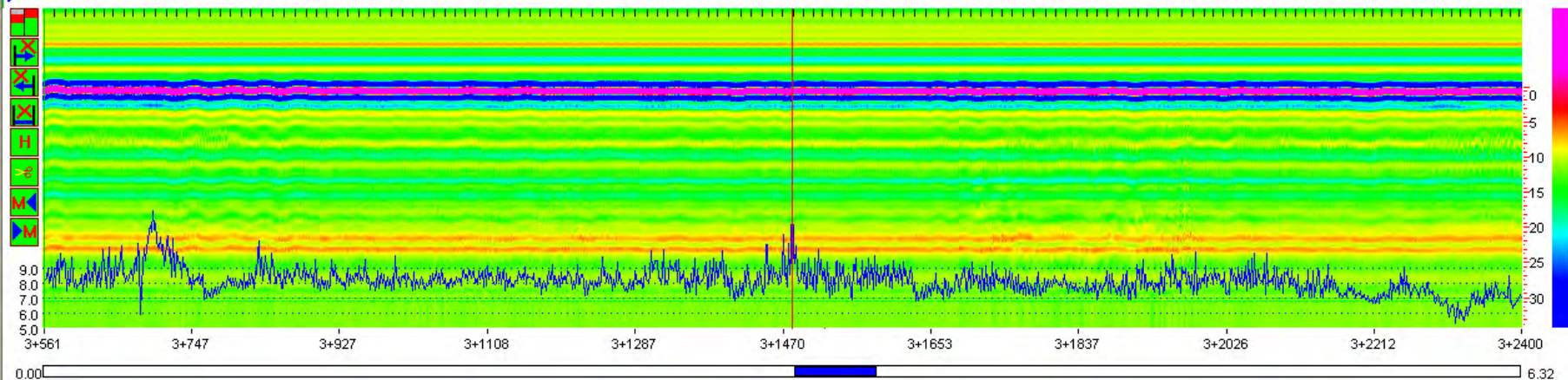




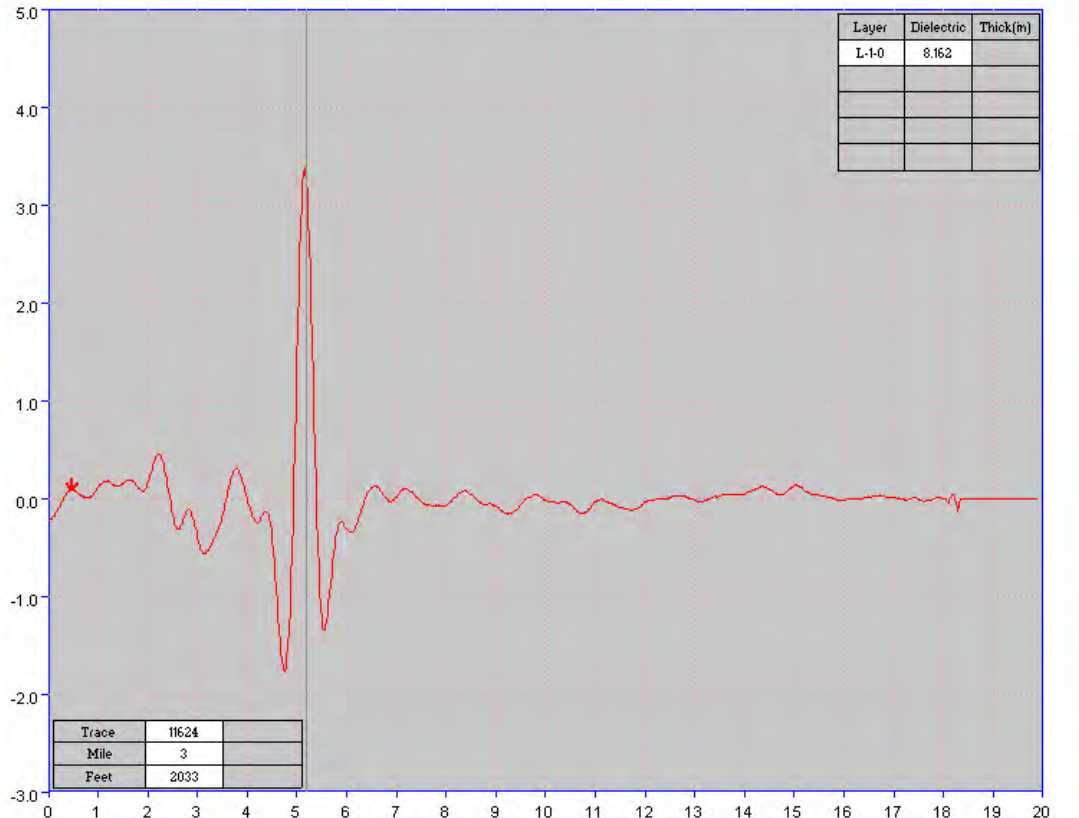
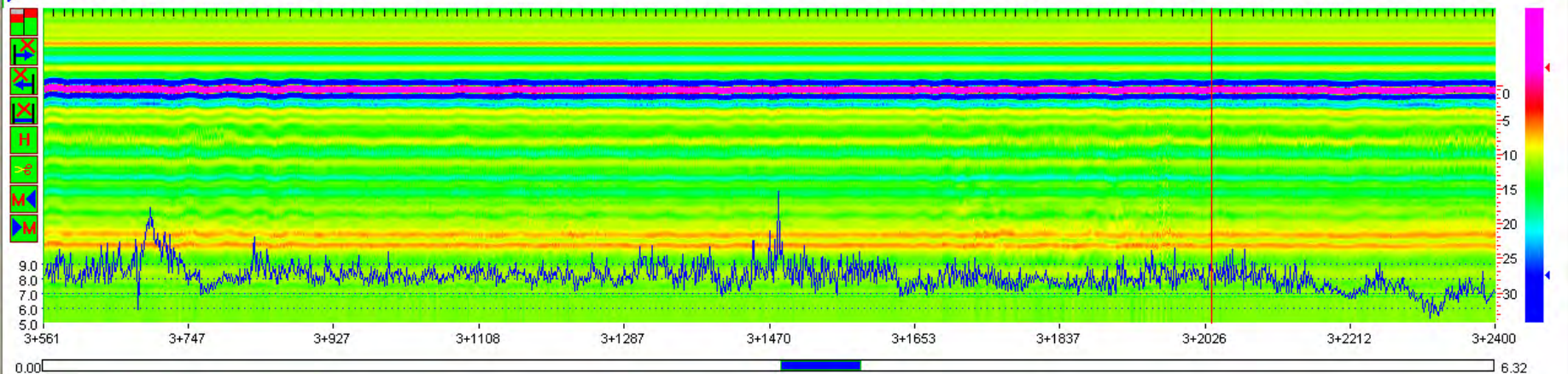




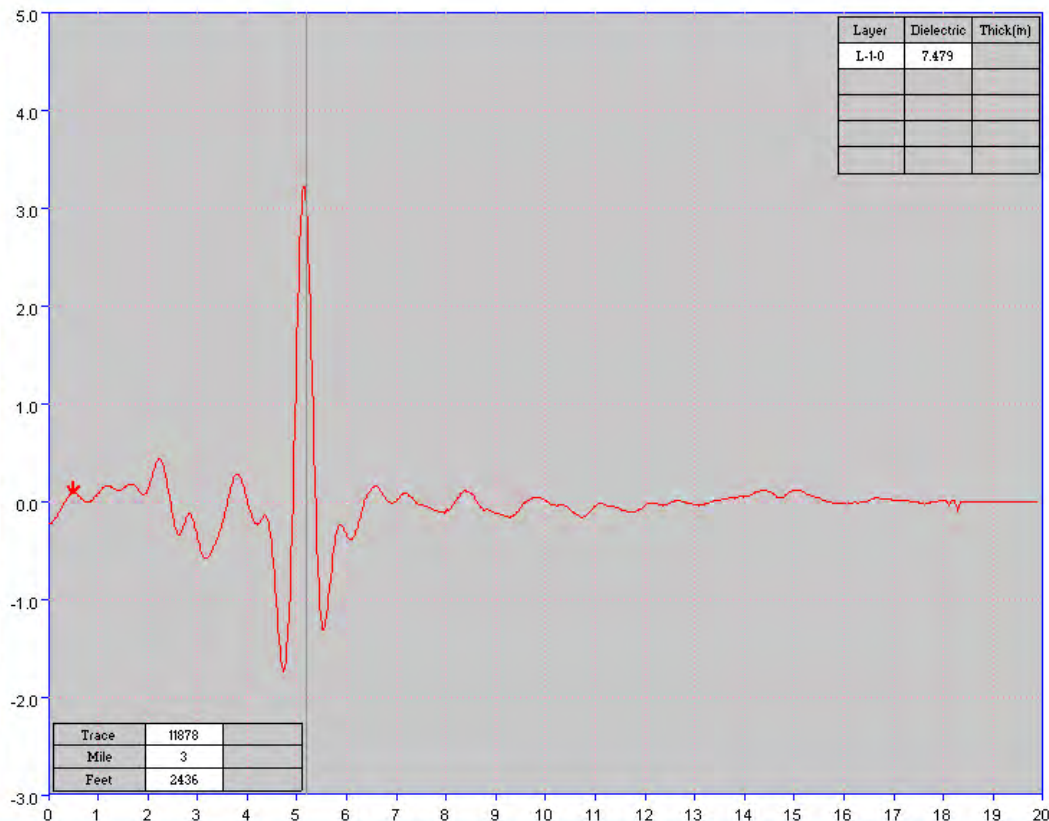
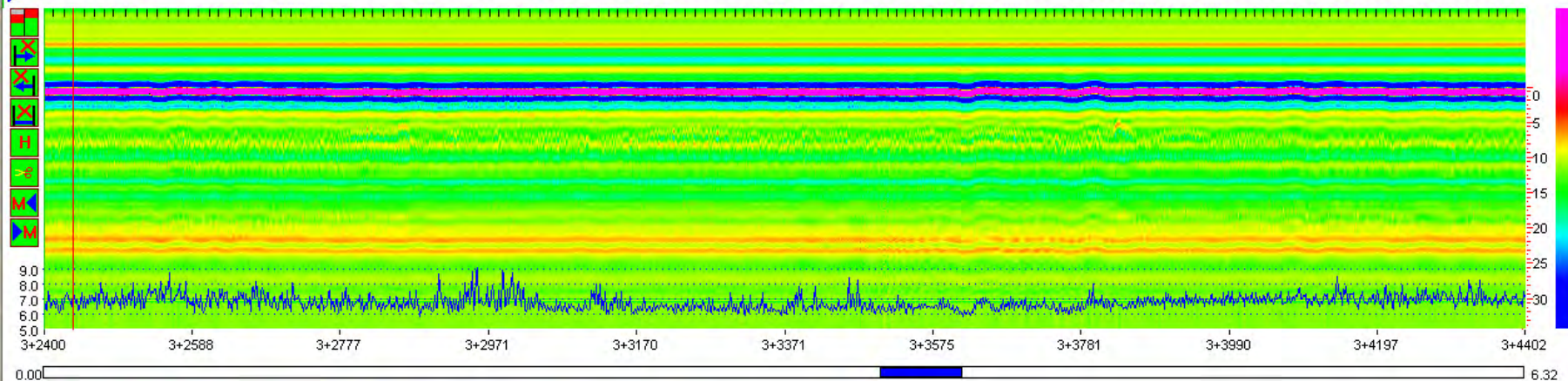




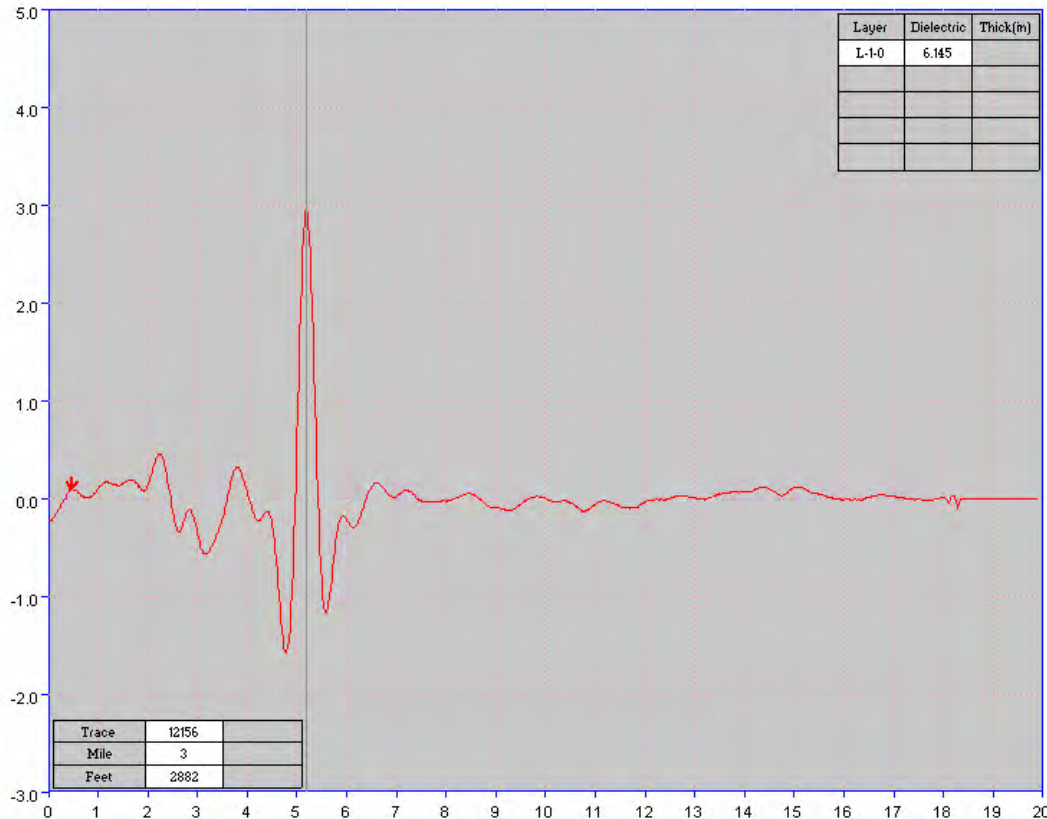
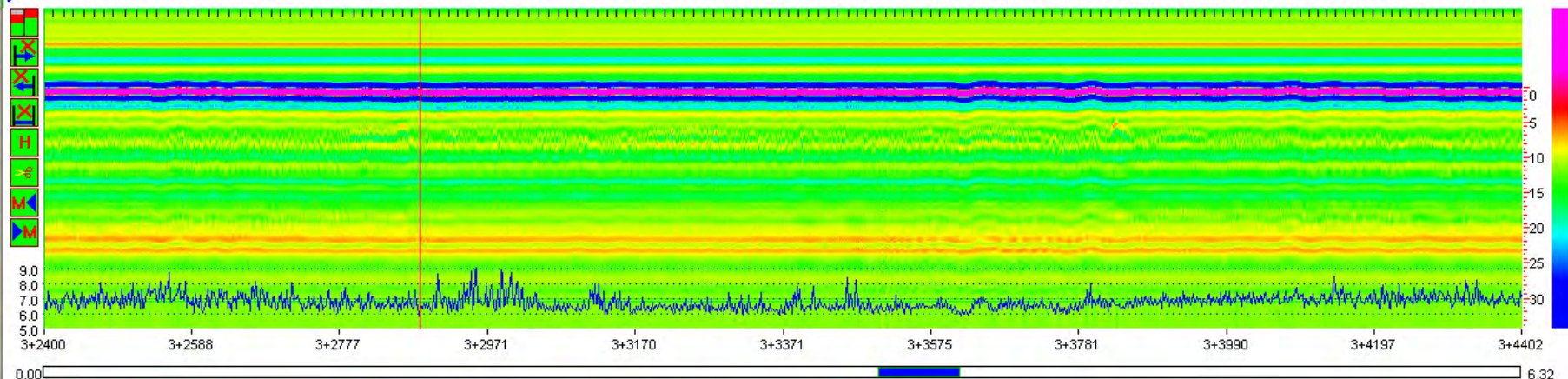




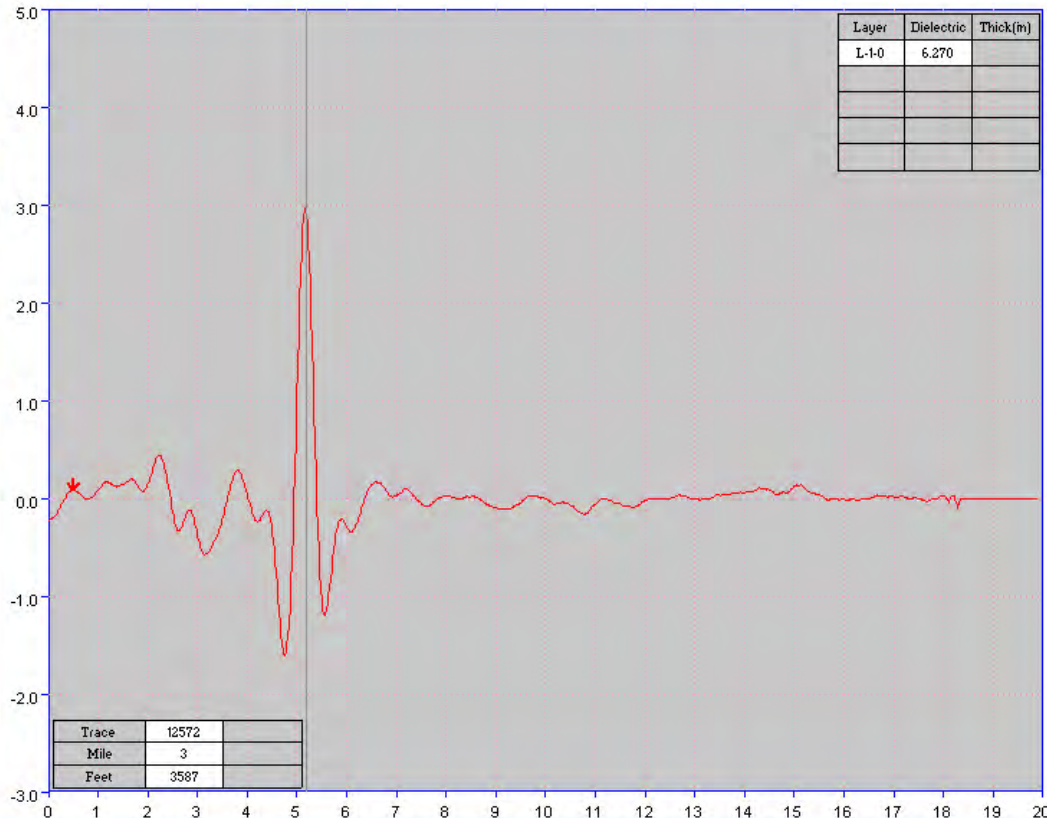
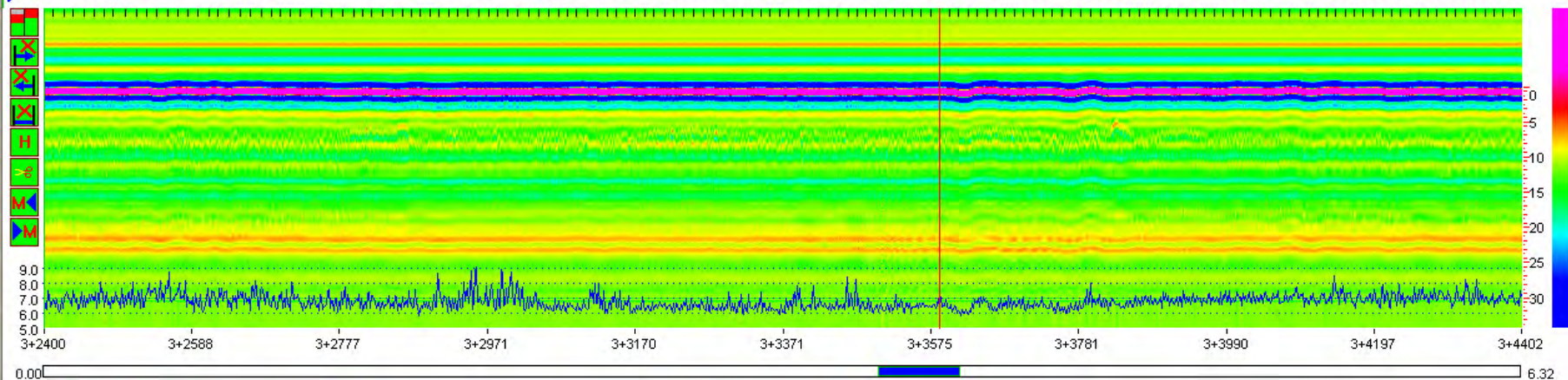




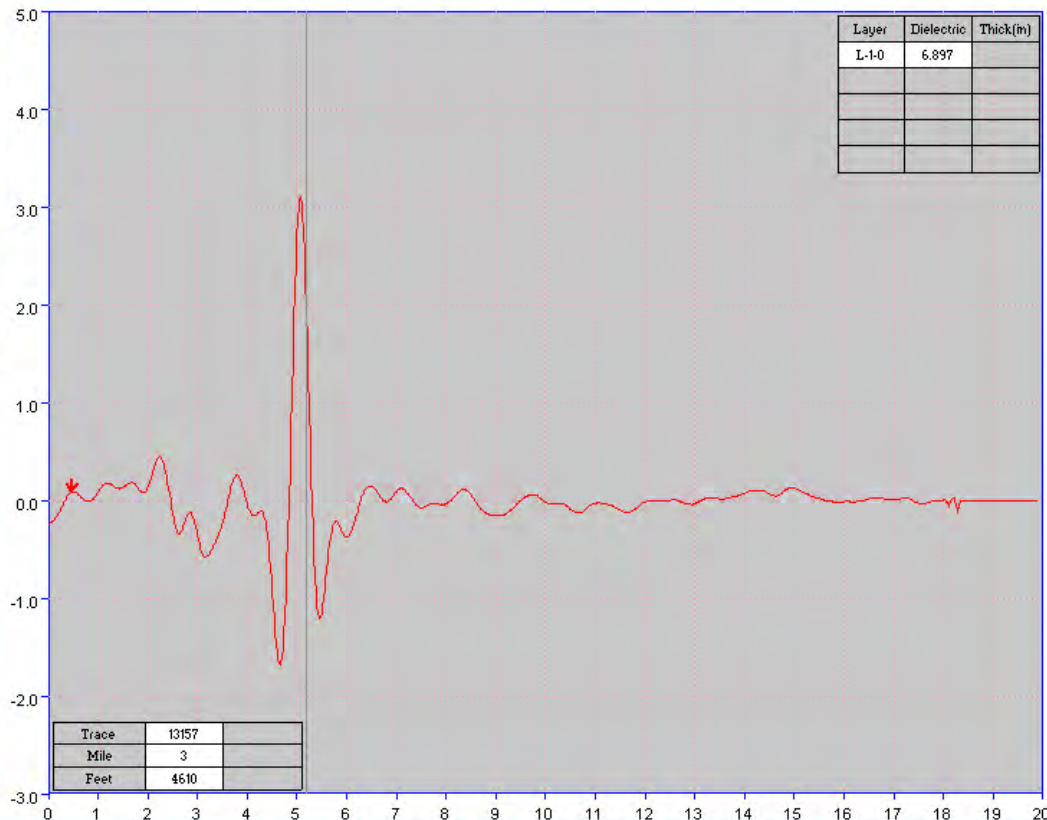
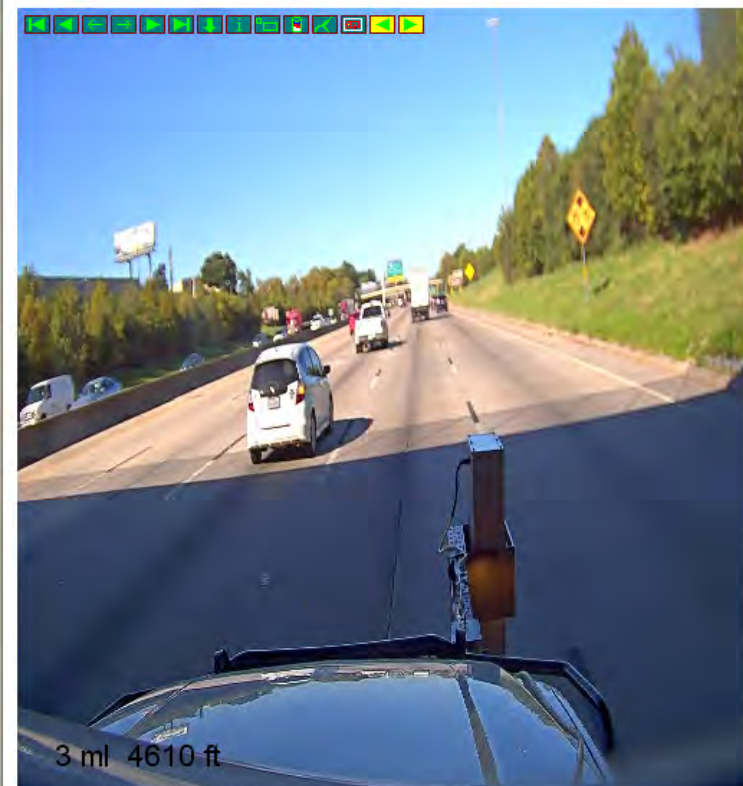
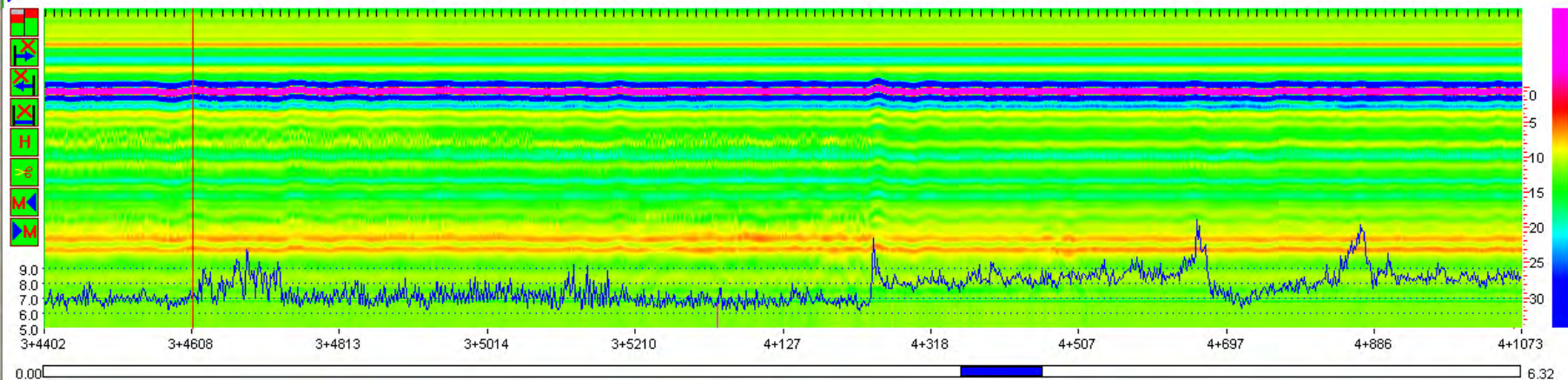
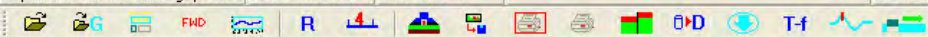




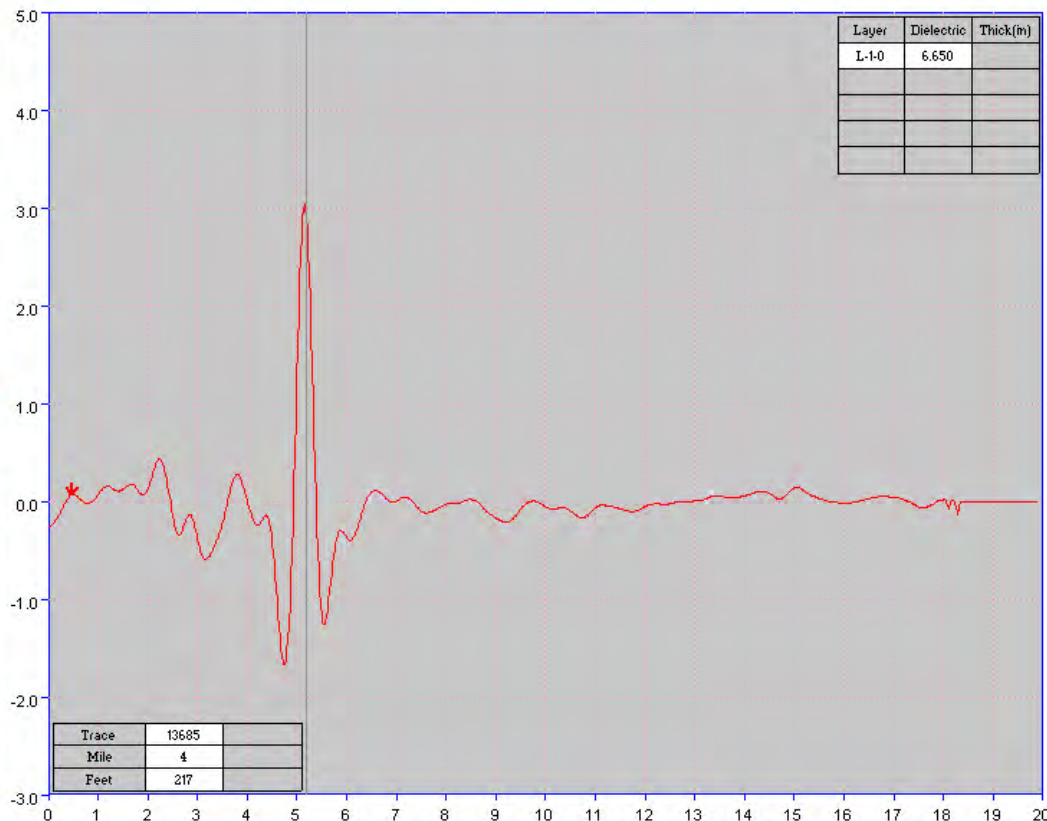
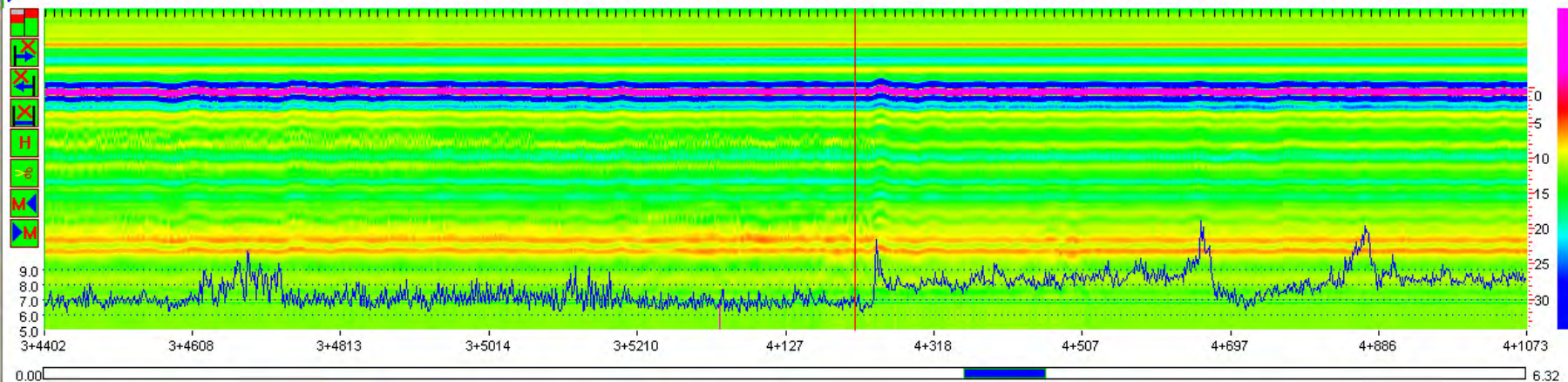




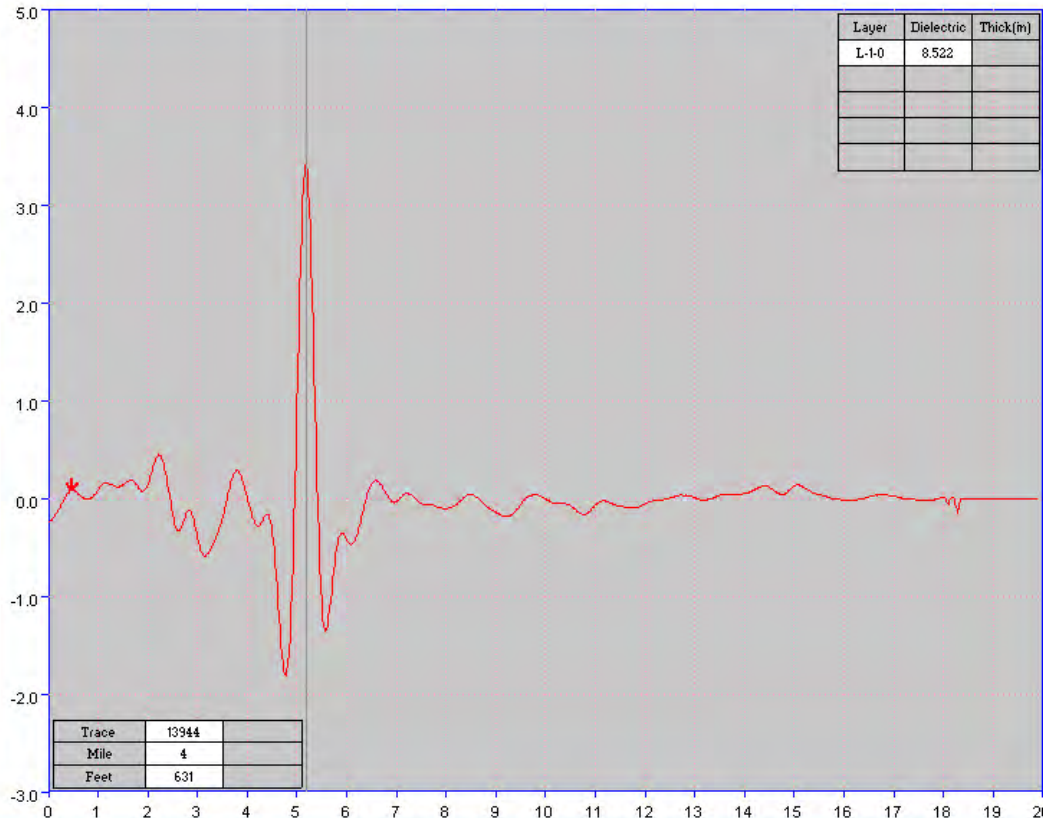
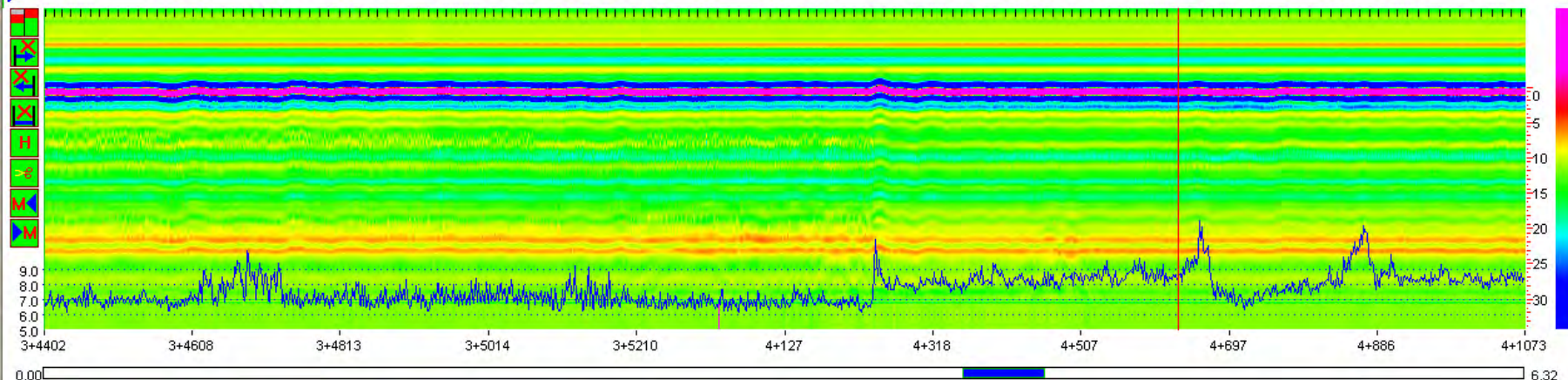




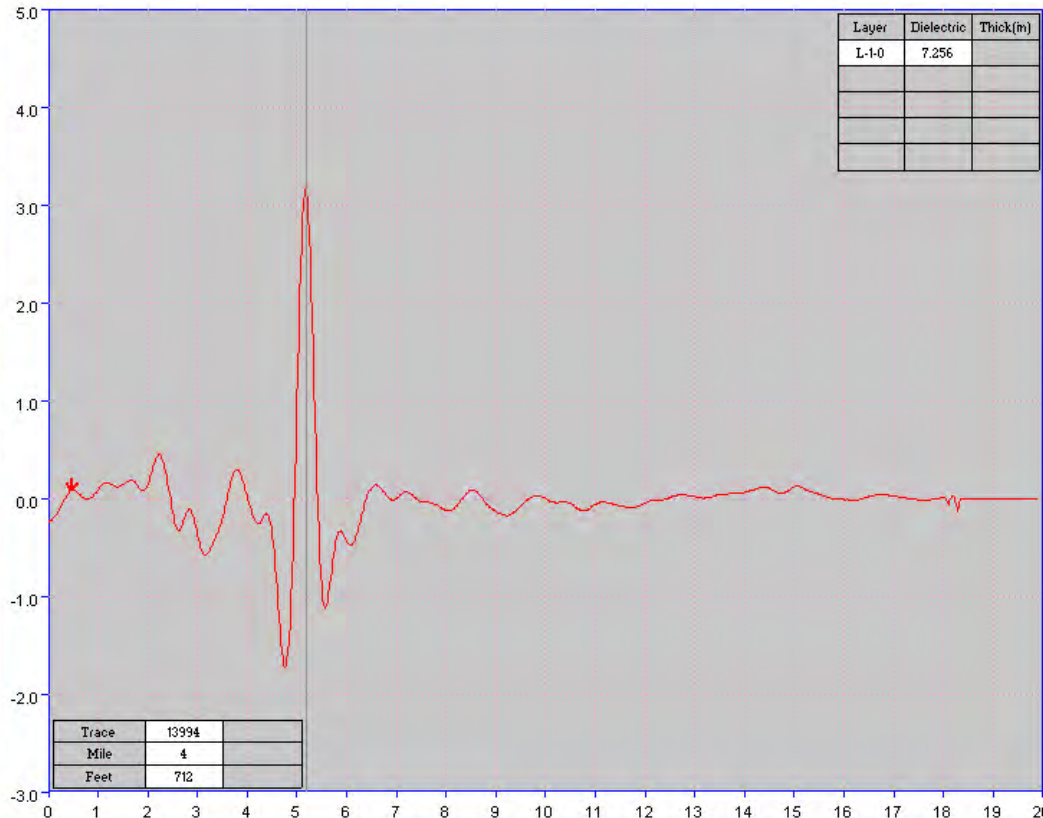
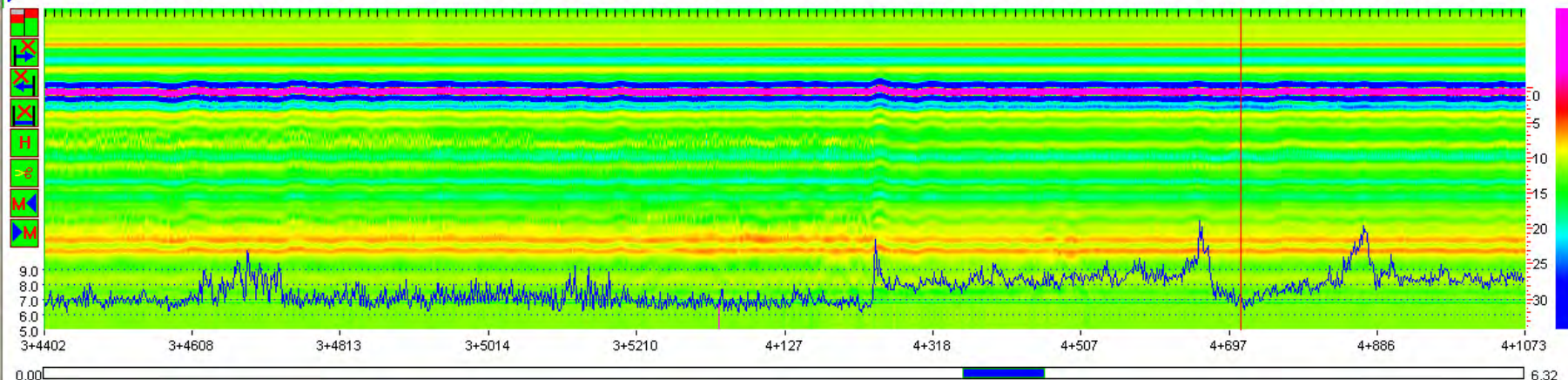




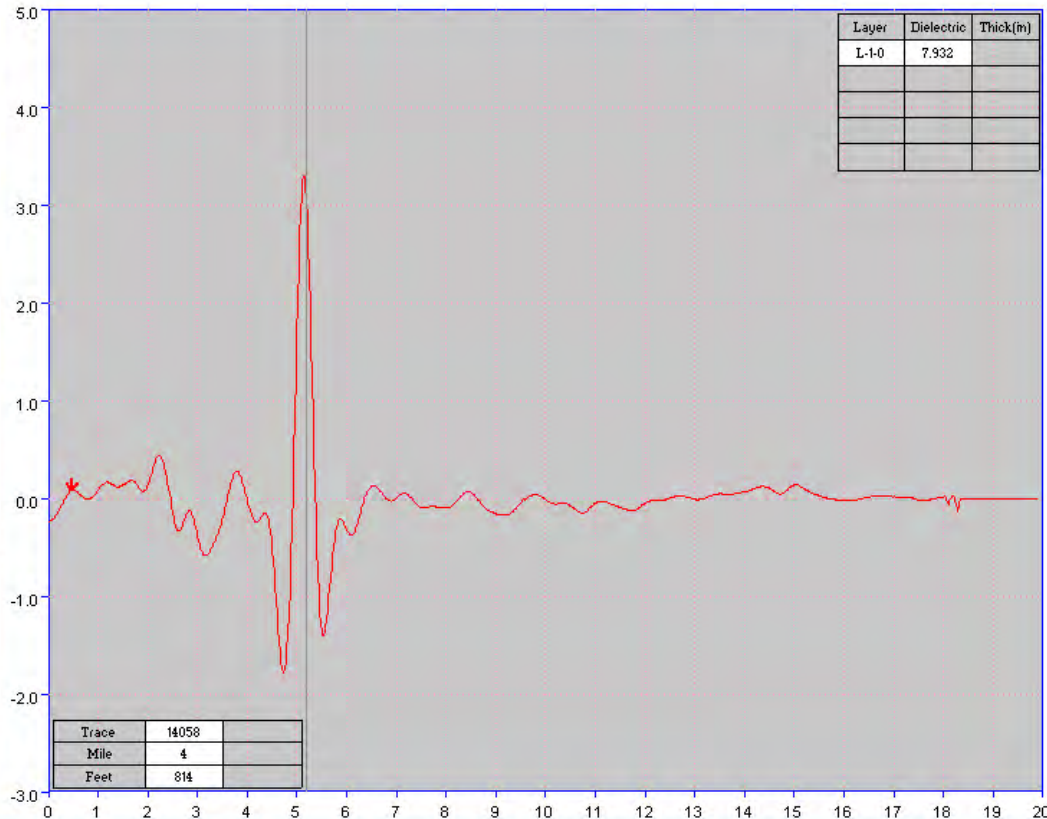
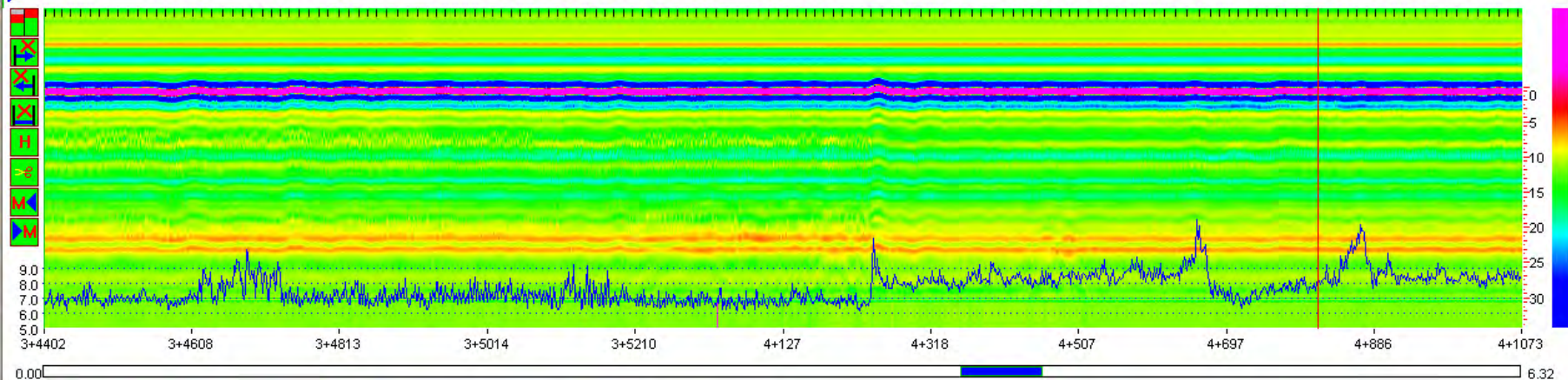




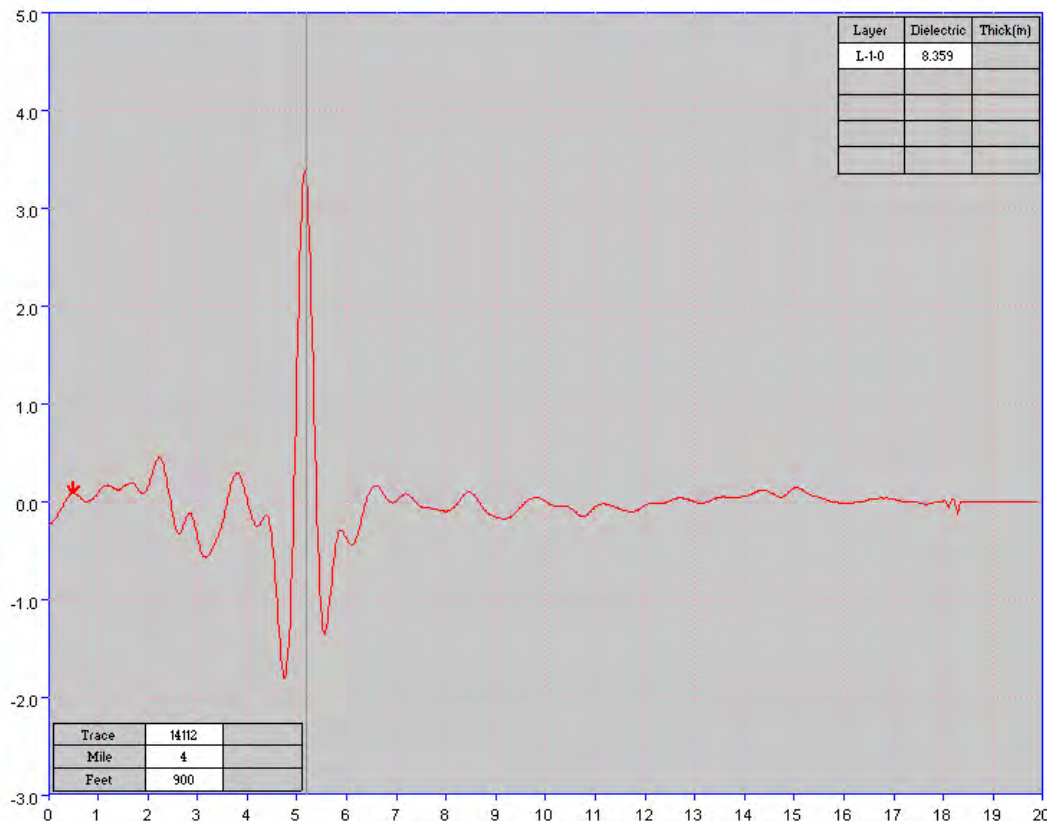
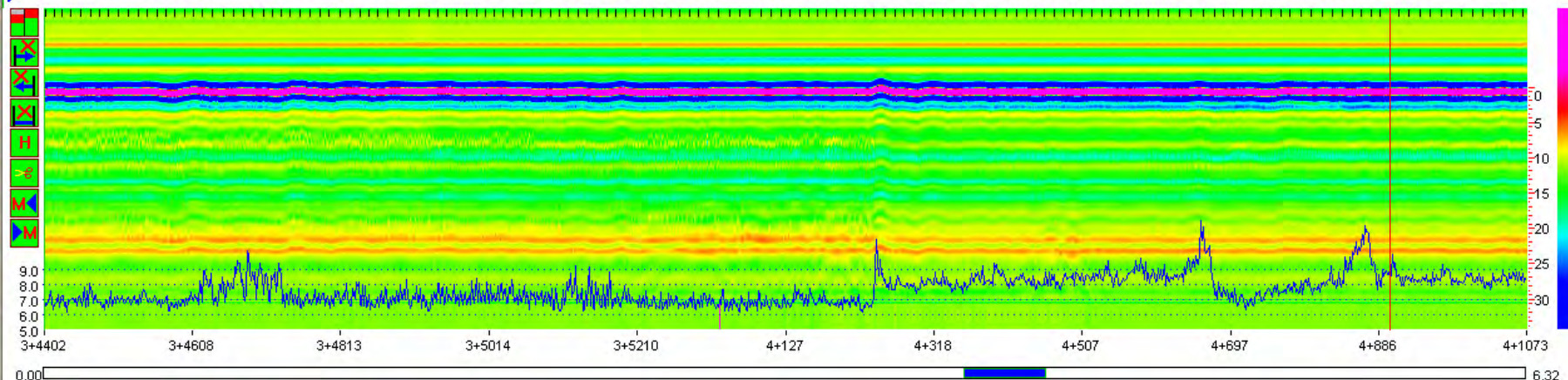




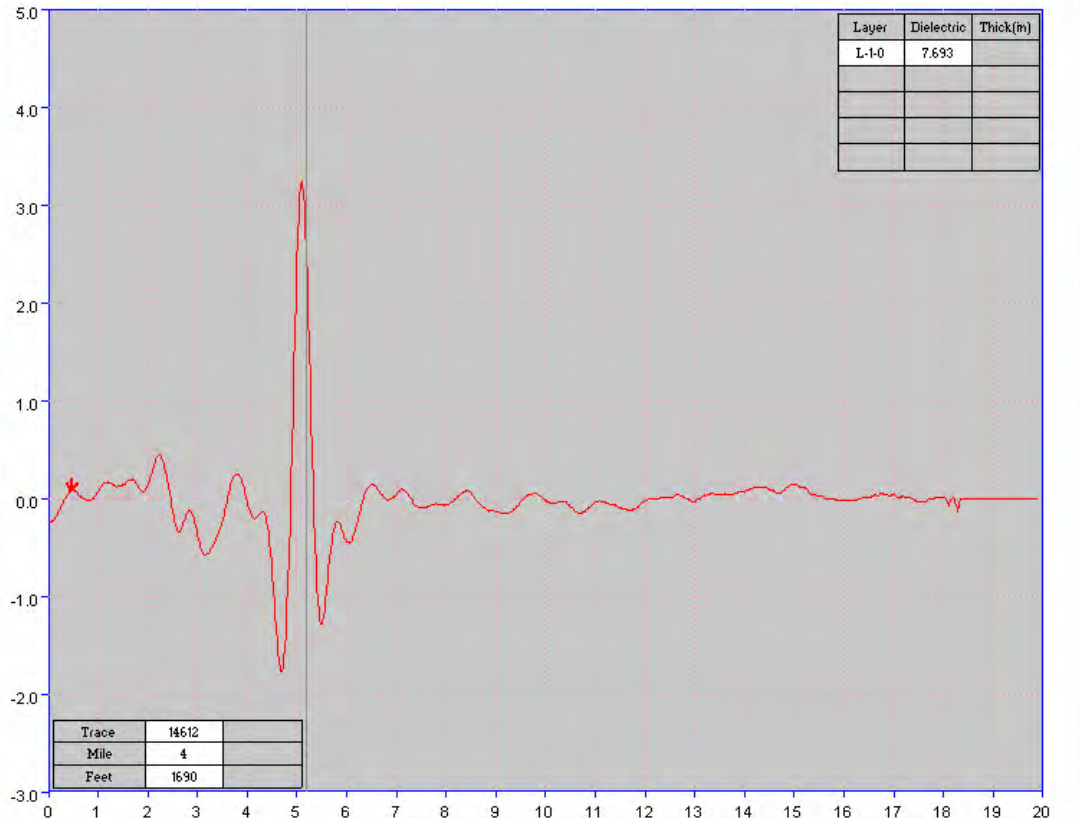
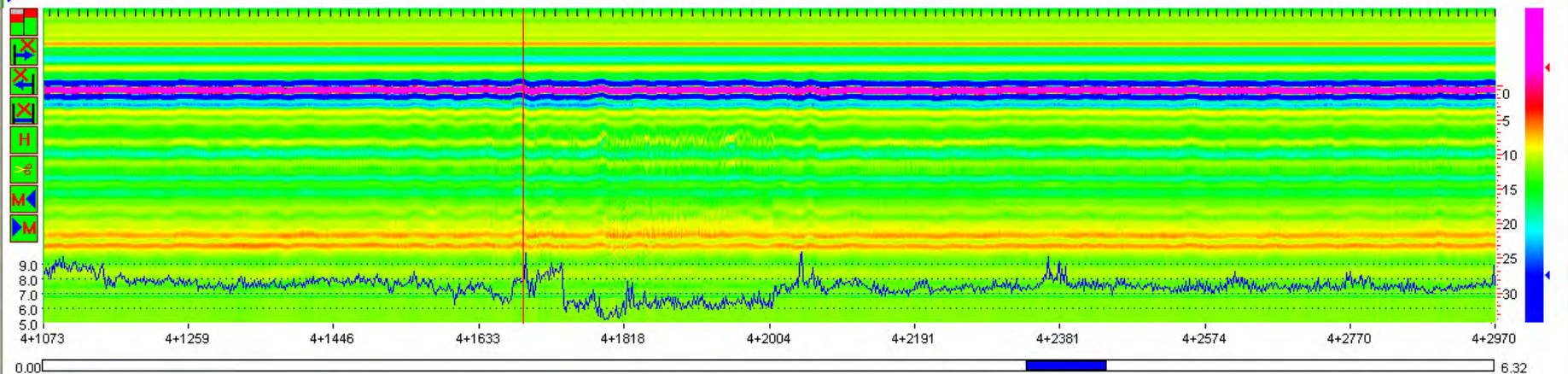




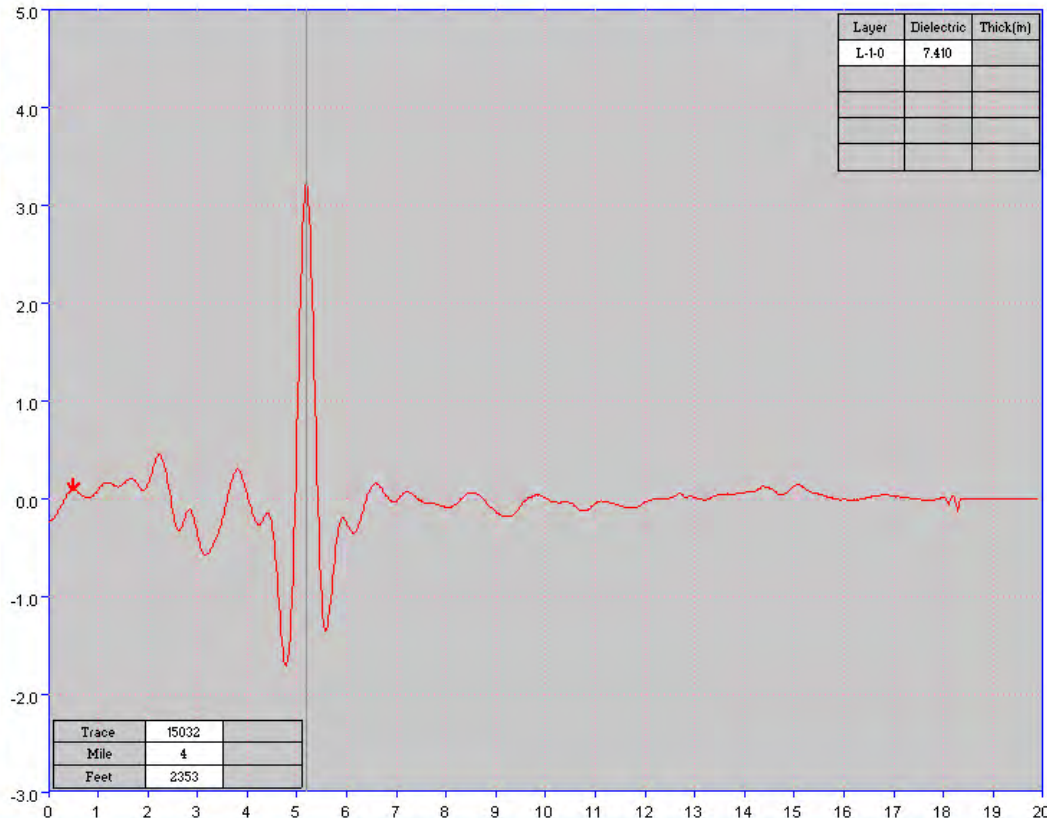
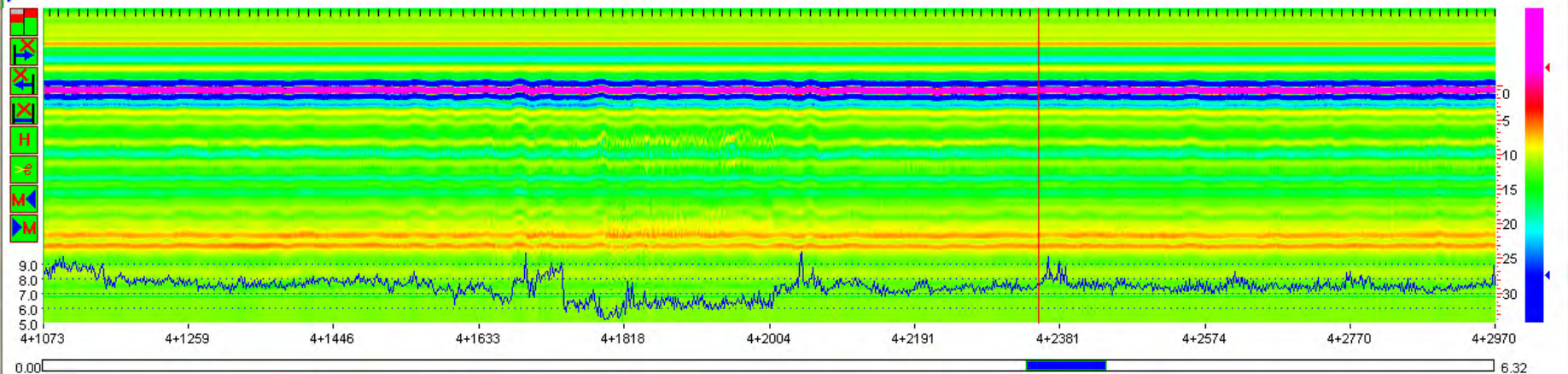




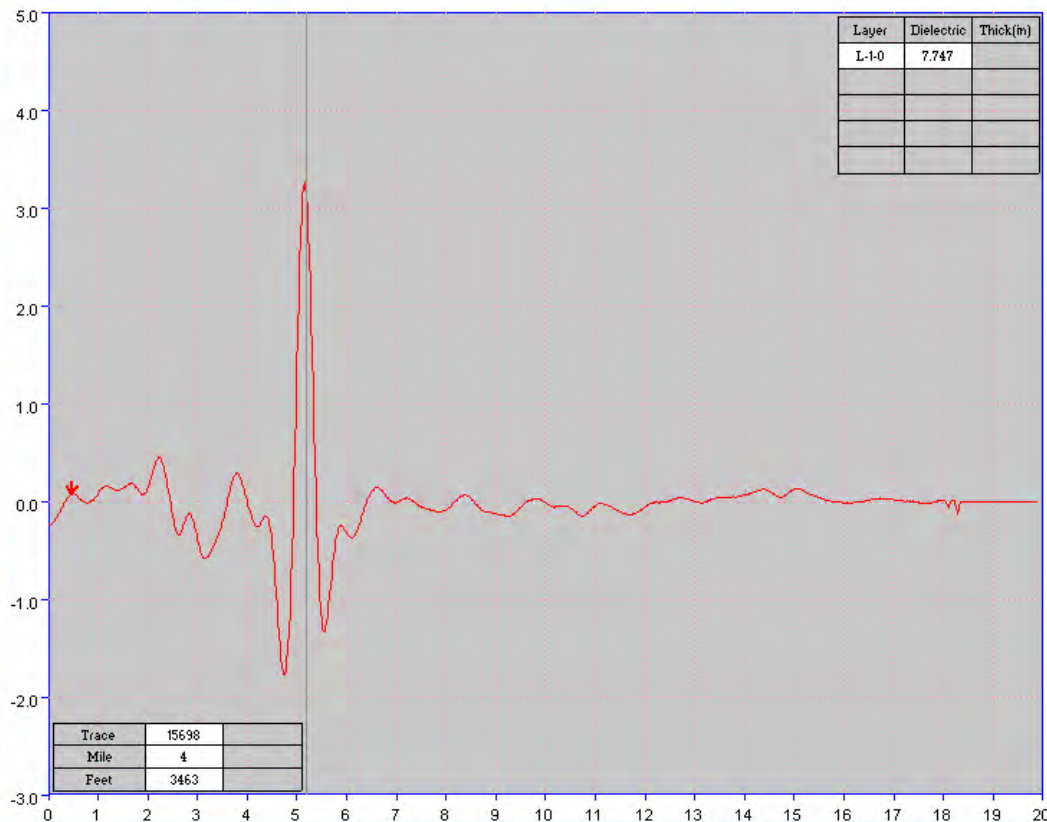
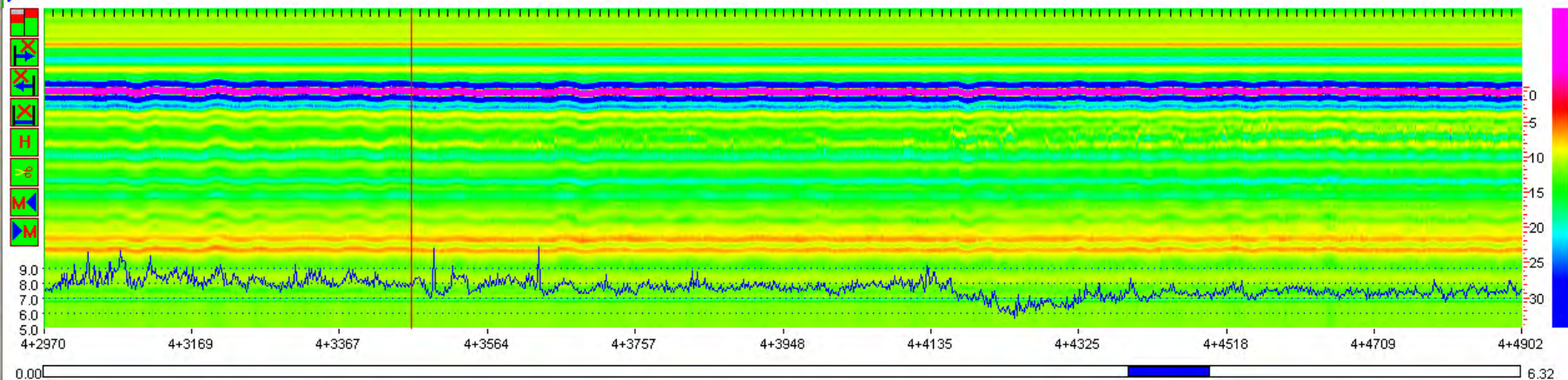




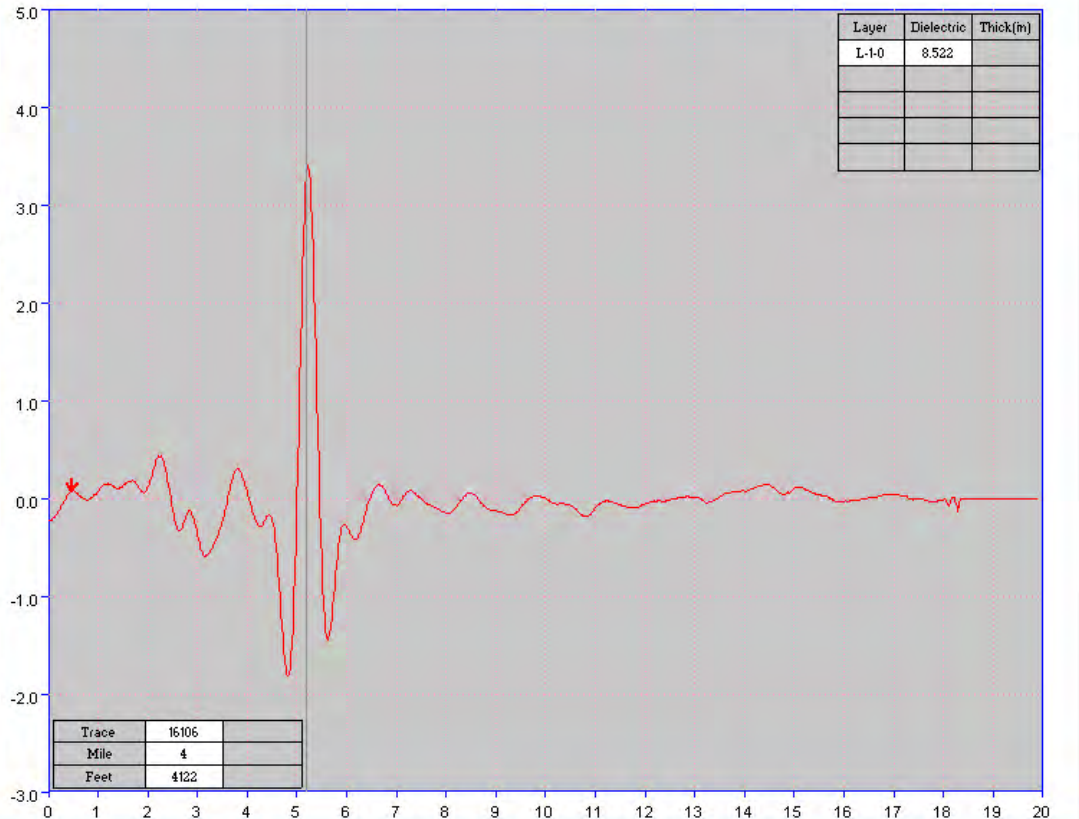
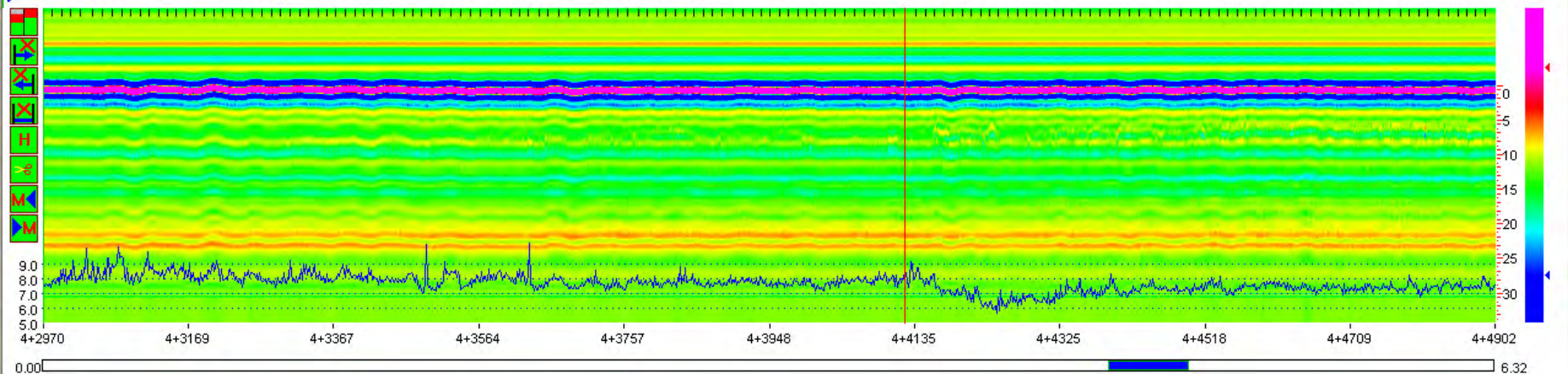




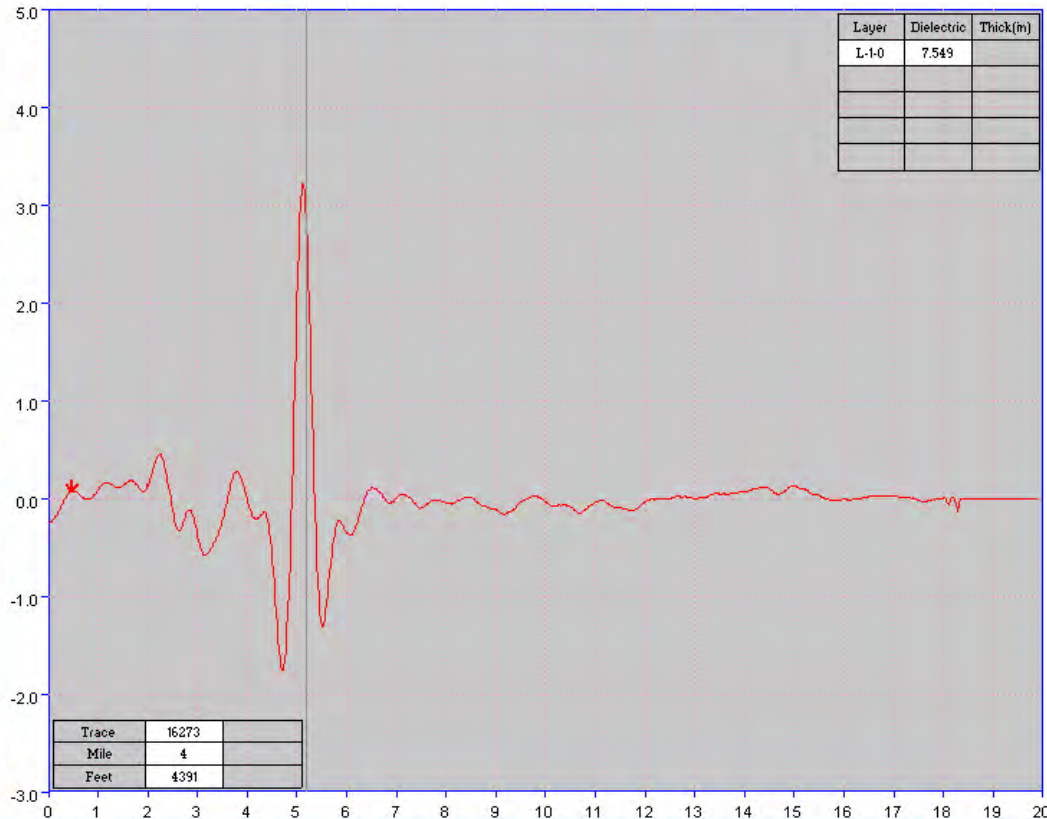
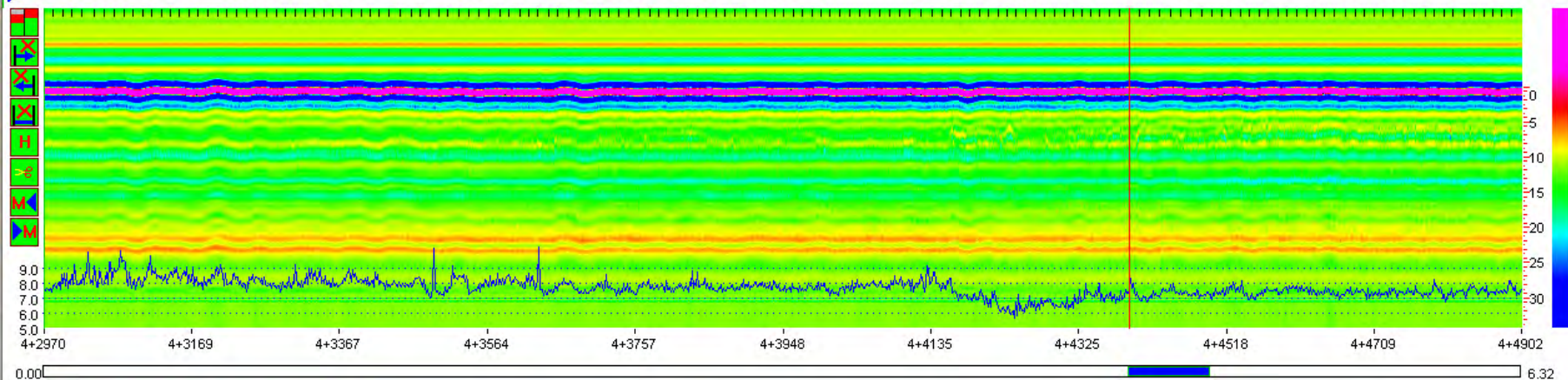




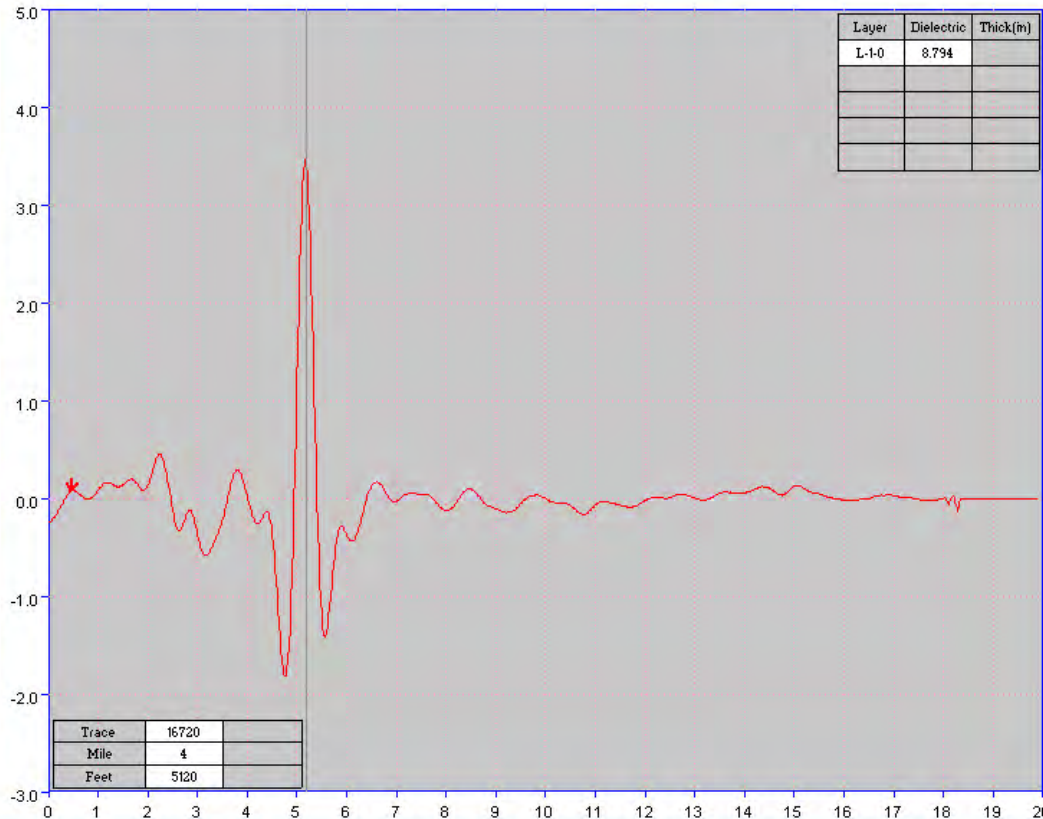
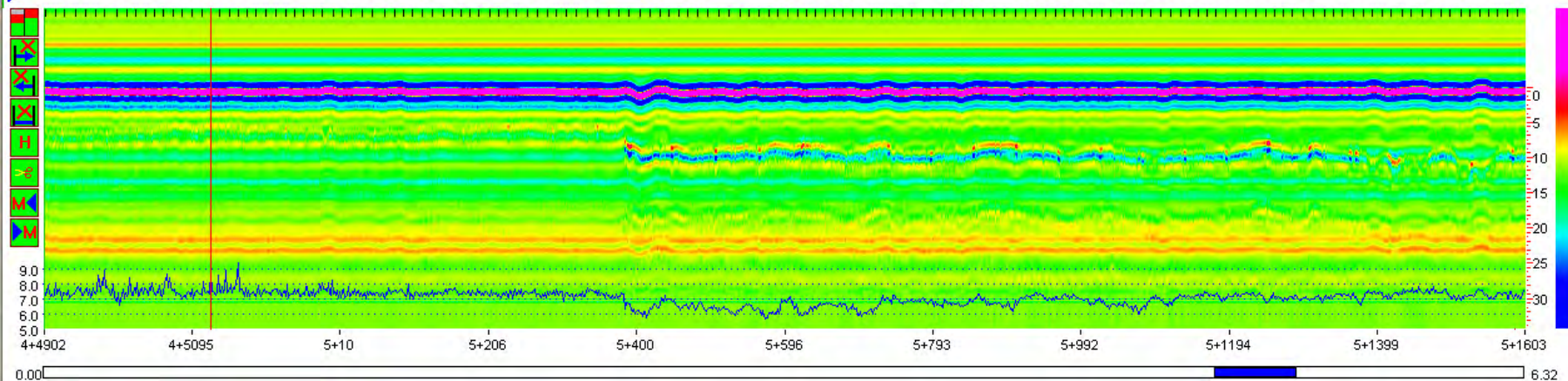




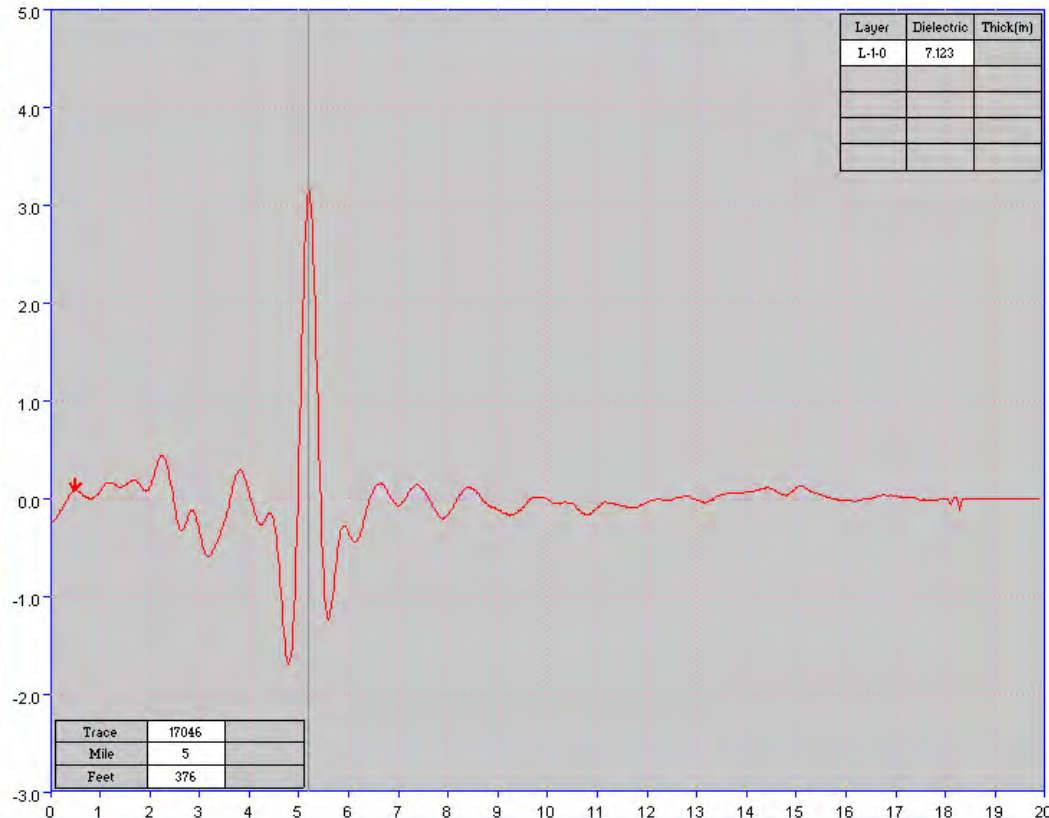
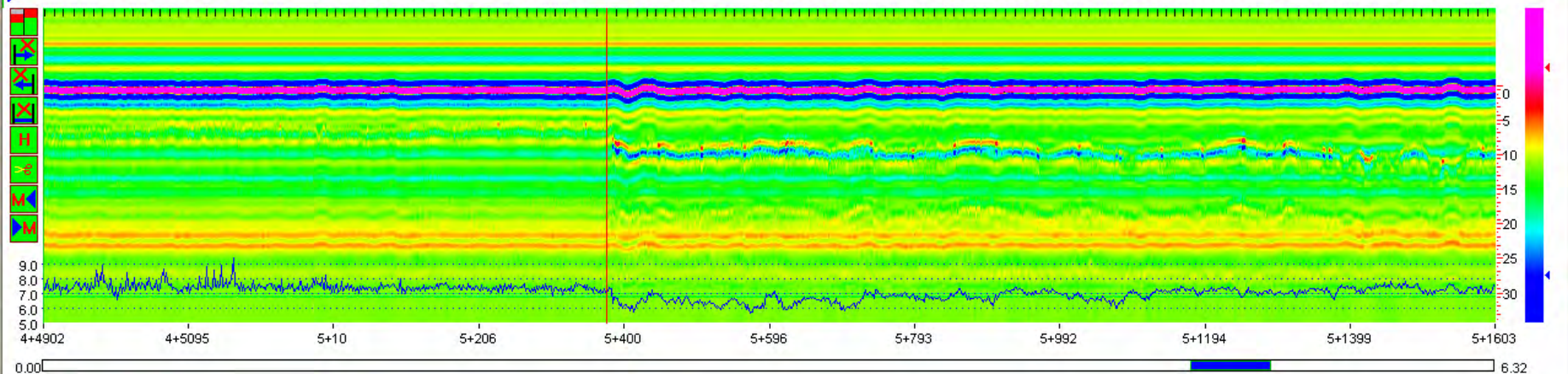




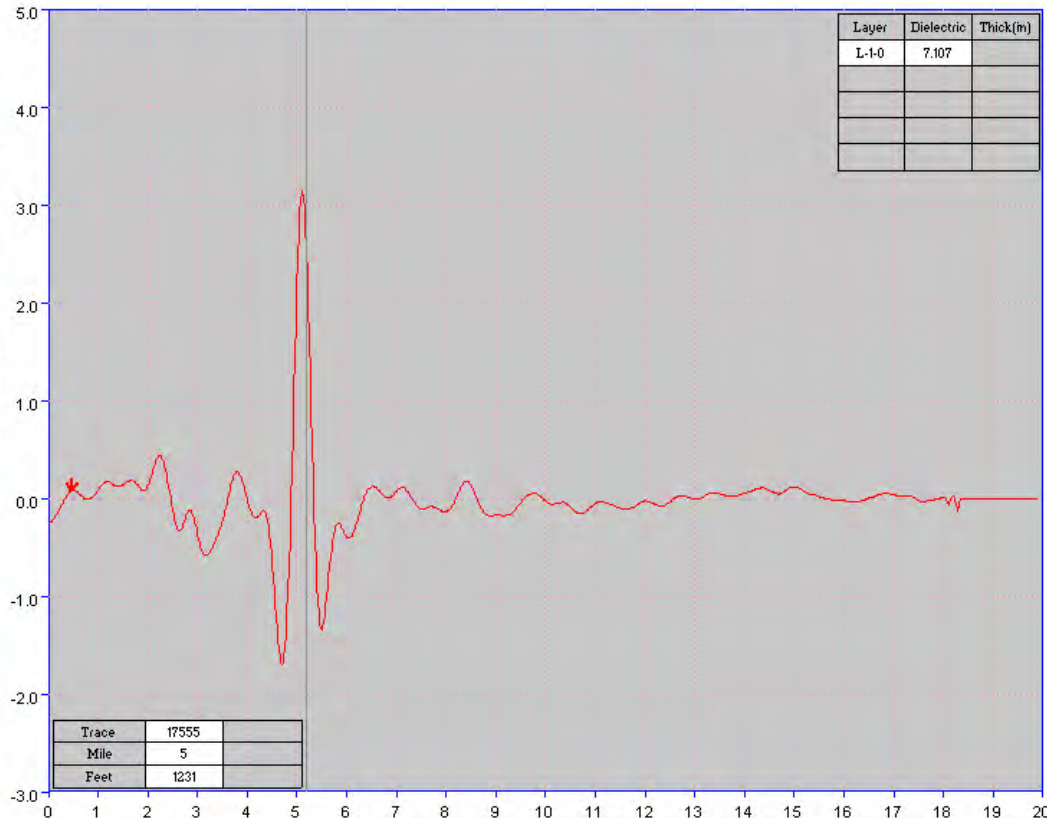
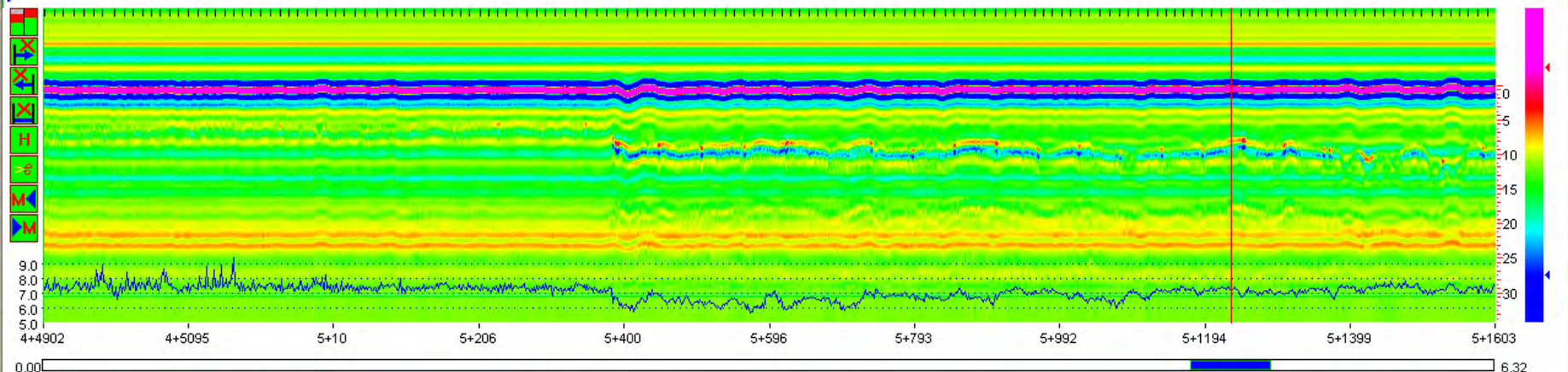




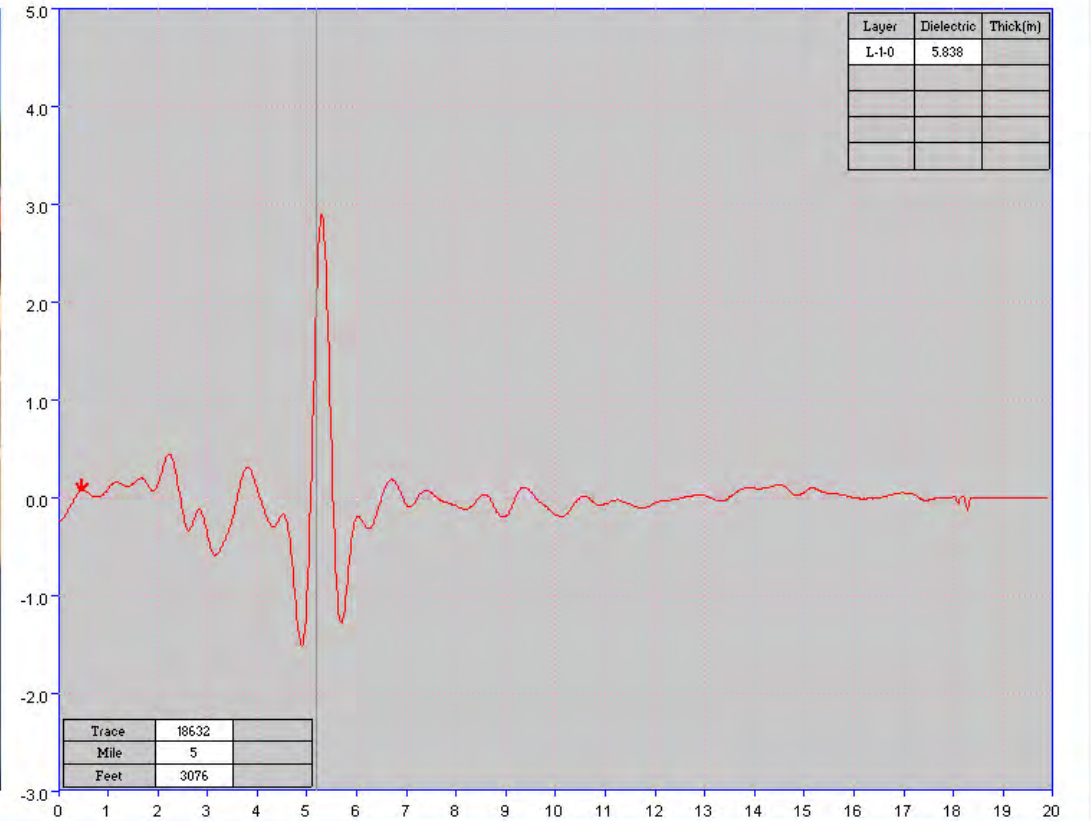
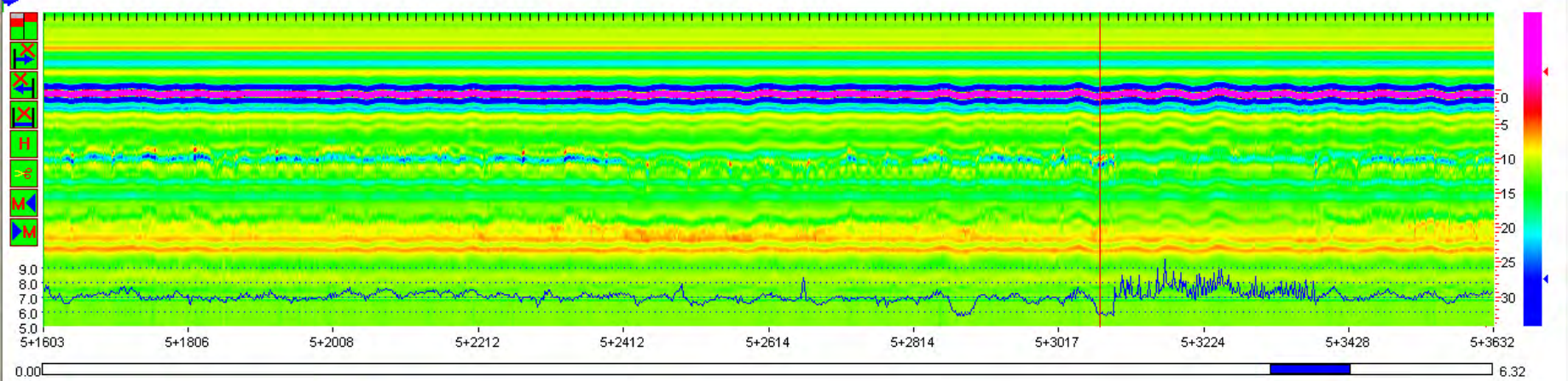




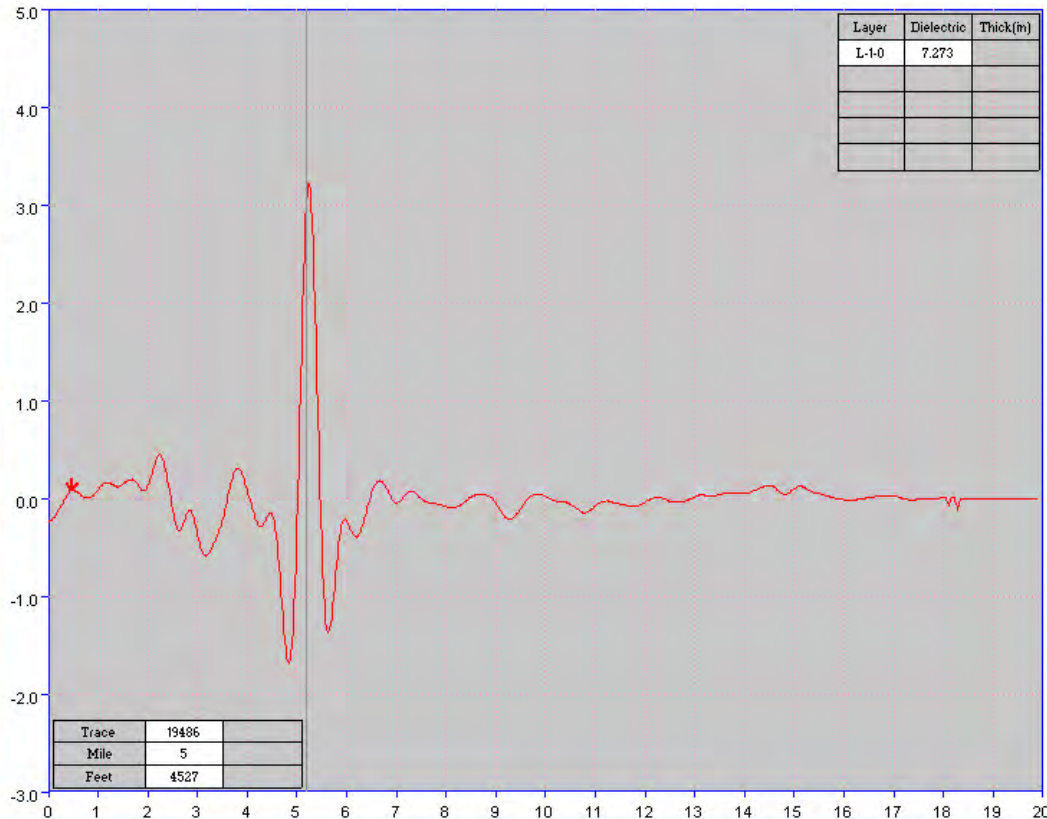
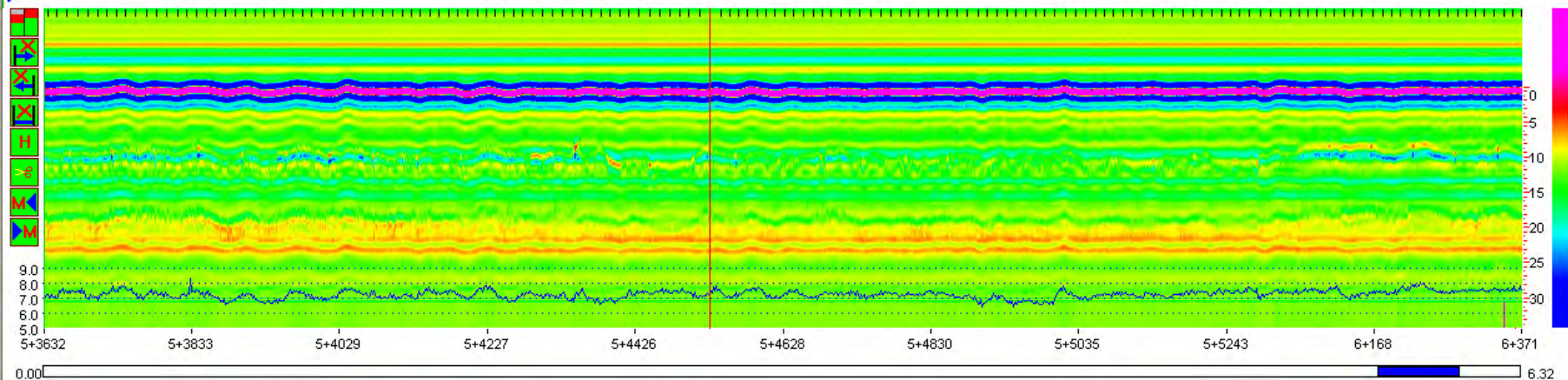




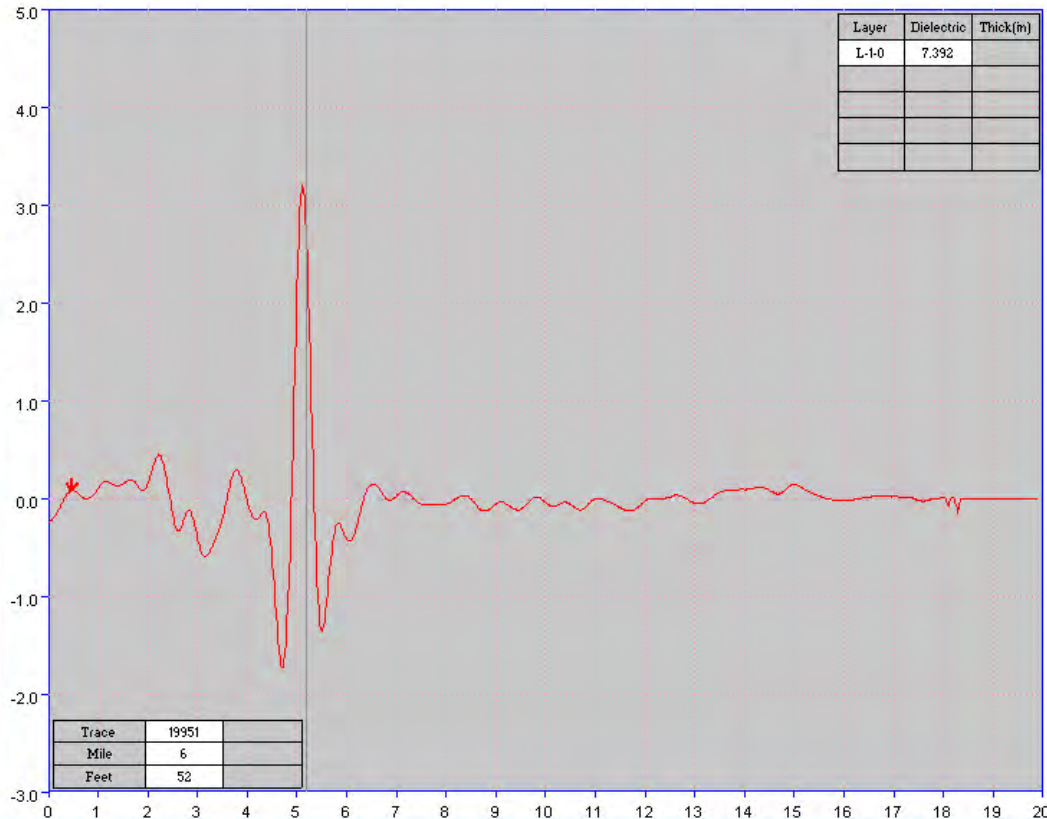
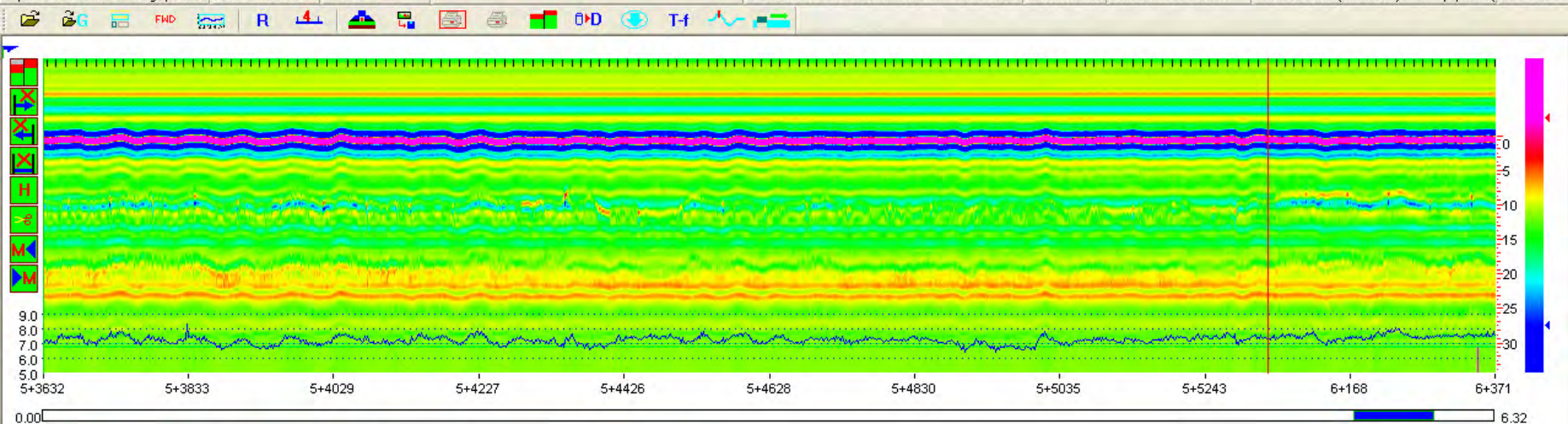




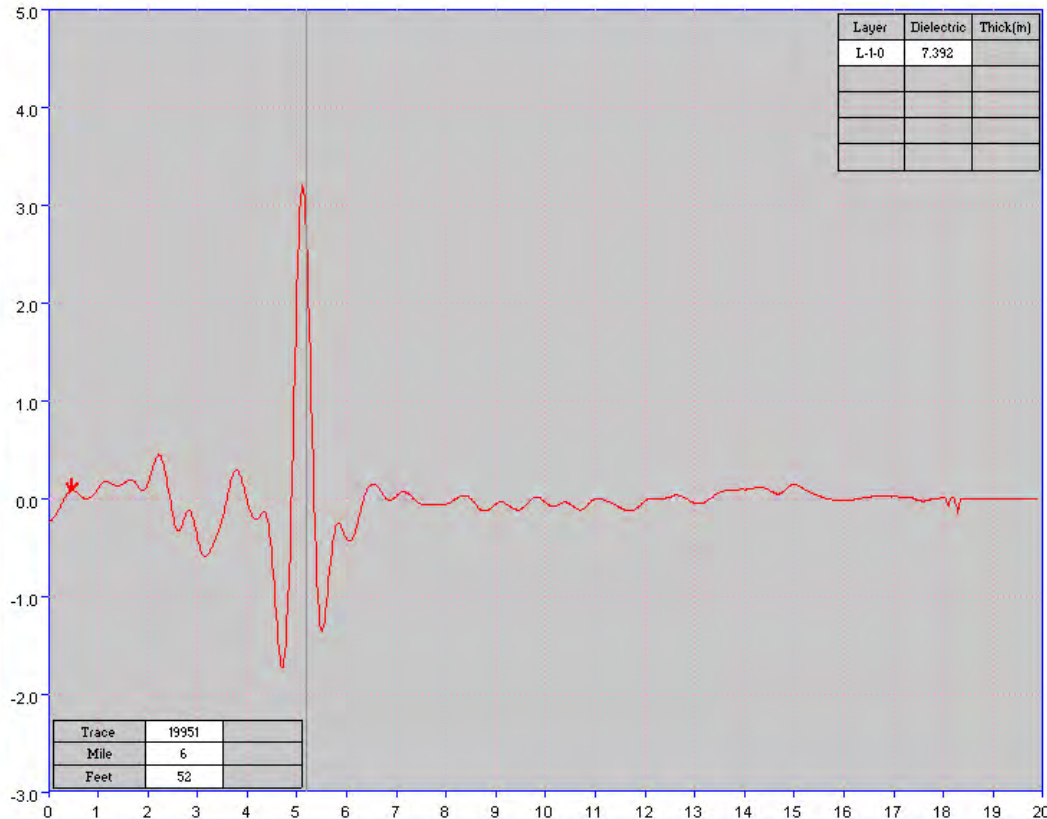
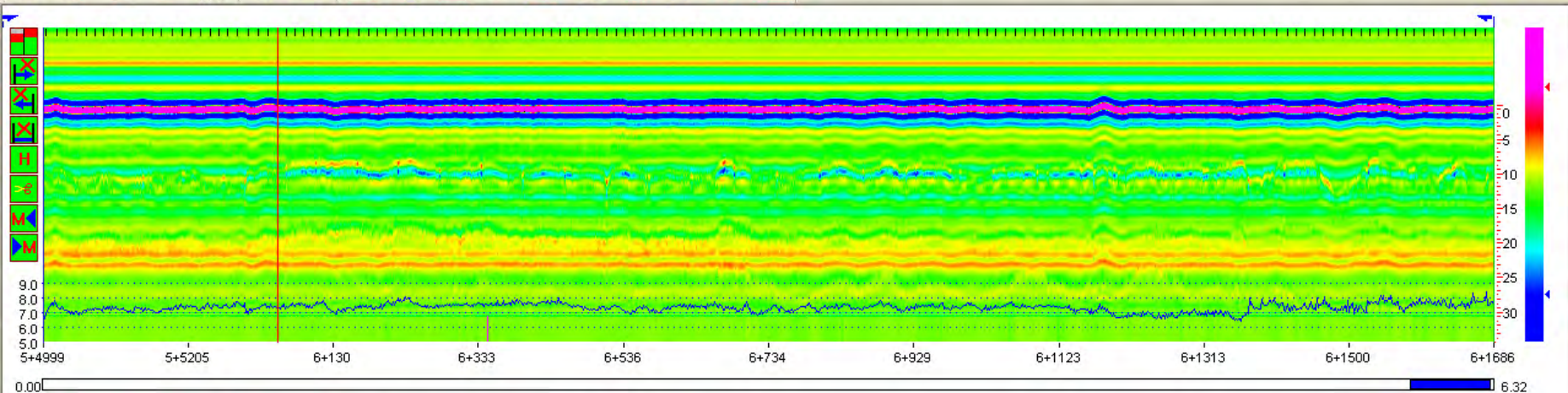




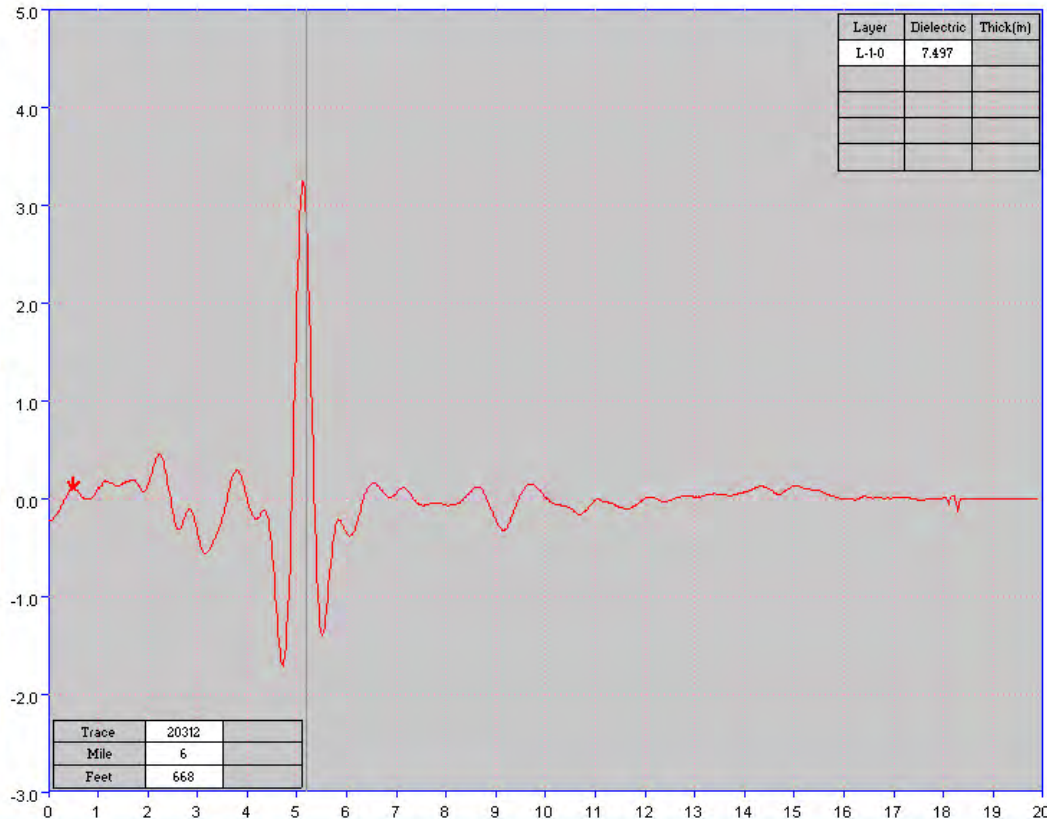
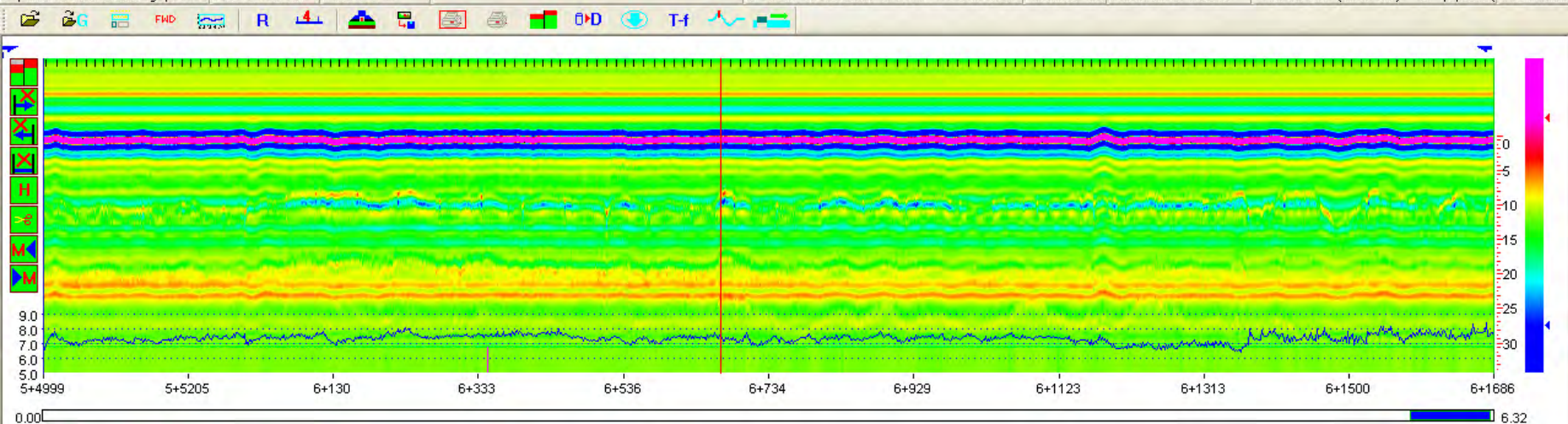


















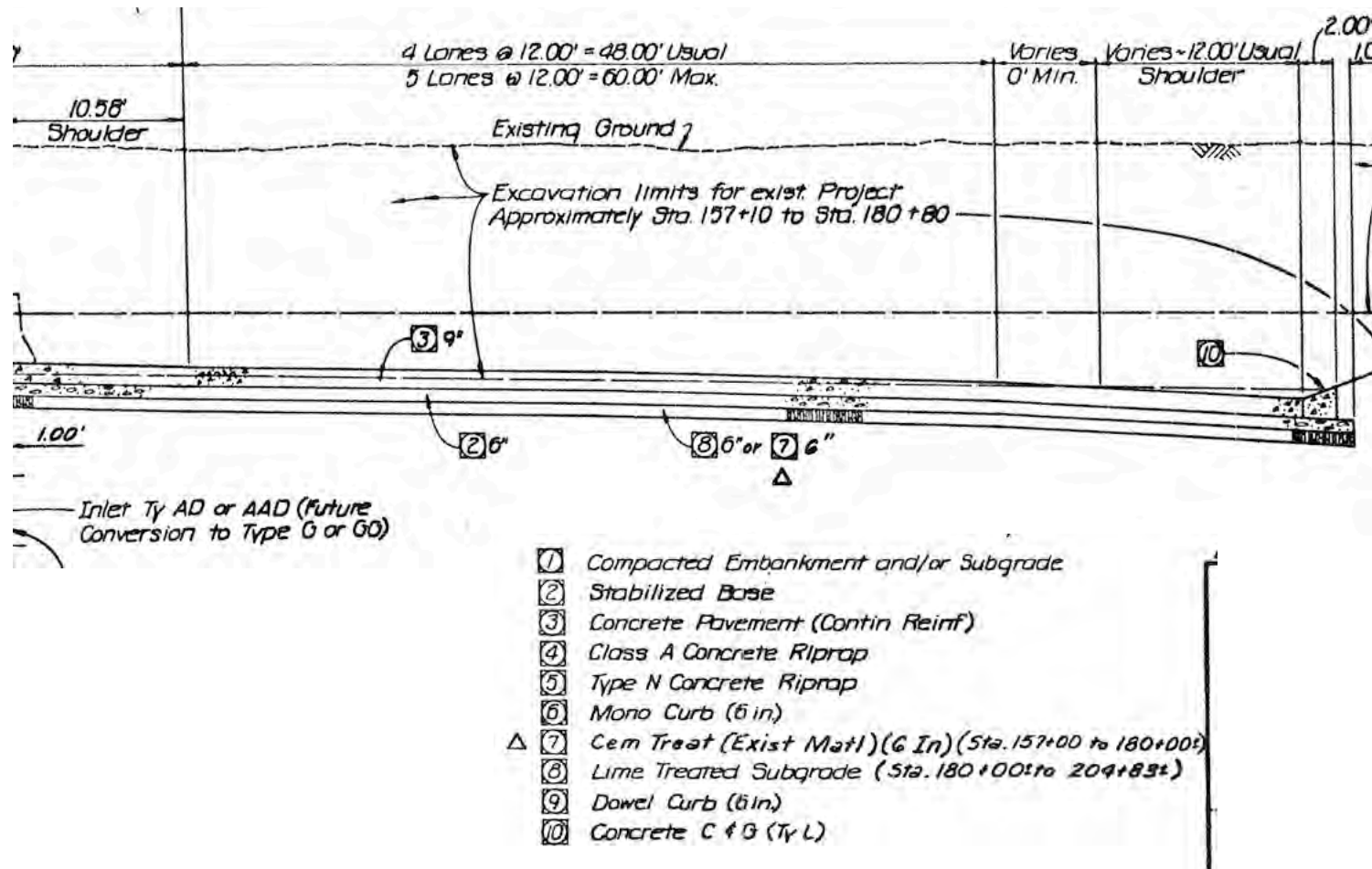
# SH 288 from Southmore to Yellowstone

- MacGregor to Yellowstone opened around 1983
- Southmore to MacGregor opened around 1984
- Expected to perform for about 7 million 18KESALS according to the 1993 AASHTO rigid pavement design procedure using TxDOT's recommended inputs.
- Estimated 22 million 18KESALS have travelled on SH 288 in the design lane from 1983 to 2016.
  - Same pavement is on its 4<sup>th</sup> life!
  - 2016 two way ADT of 145,504 with 9.4% trucks
  - For comparison, IH 10 near UTSA and FM 1604 has a 2016 two way ADT of 149,420 with 4.7% trucks
  - Would take almost twice as long in San Antonio to reach the same traffic loading condition as SH288 in Houston

## **SH 288 from Southmore to MacGregor**

- 9" CRCP
- 0.75" Asphalt Concrete Pavement (assumed)
- 5.25" Cement Stabilized Base (assumed)
- 6" Lime Treated or Cement Treated Subgrade (depending on the subgrade type)
- Note: TxDOT allowed either cement or asphalt stabilized base, but if cement stabilized base was used, 0.75" ACP was required on top. If ASB was used, the total thickness was 6" ASB.

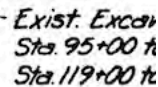




## SH 288 from MacGregor to Yellowstone

- 9" CRCP
- 0.75" Asphalt Stabilized Base (assumed)
- 5.25" Cement Stabilized Base (assumed)
- 6" Lime Treated Subgrade
- Note: TxDOT allowed either cement or asphalt stabilized base, but if cement stabilized base was used, 0.75" ASB was required on top. If ASB was used, the total thickness was 6" ASB.



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## SH 288 from Southmore to Yellowstone

- Has been flooded *at least* three times since it's been constructed
- TxDOT pavement\* maintenance expenditures on this section from 1993 to 2016 were \$206,598, or \$11,738/lane mile
  - \$510/year/lane mile (for a pavement well past design life)
- Note: no TxDOT maintenance expenditures are available before 1993

\* Does not include trash pick-up, striping, etc.















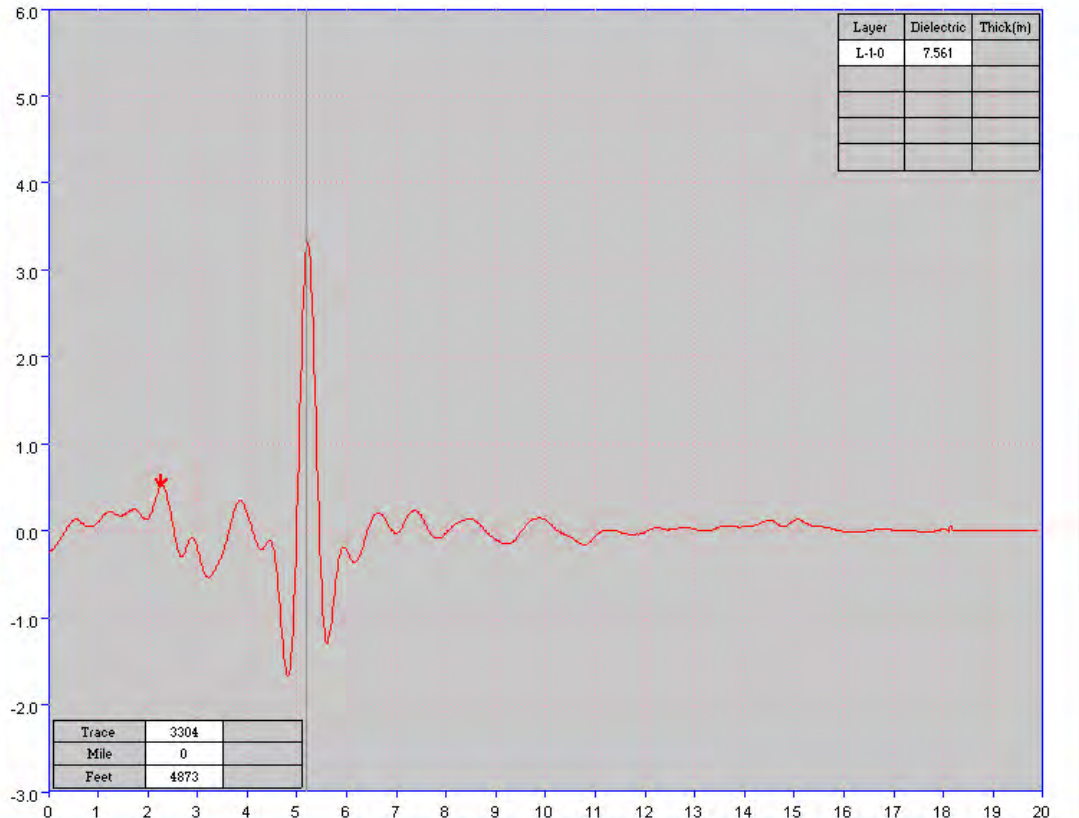
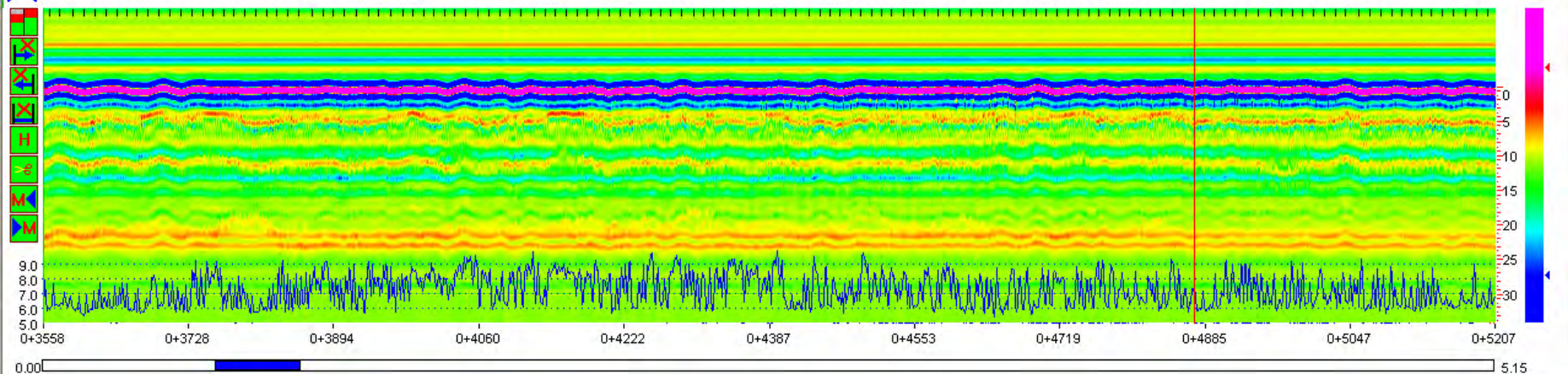




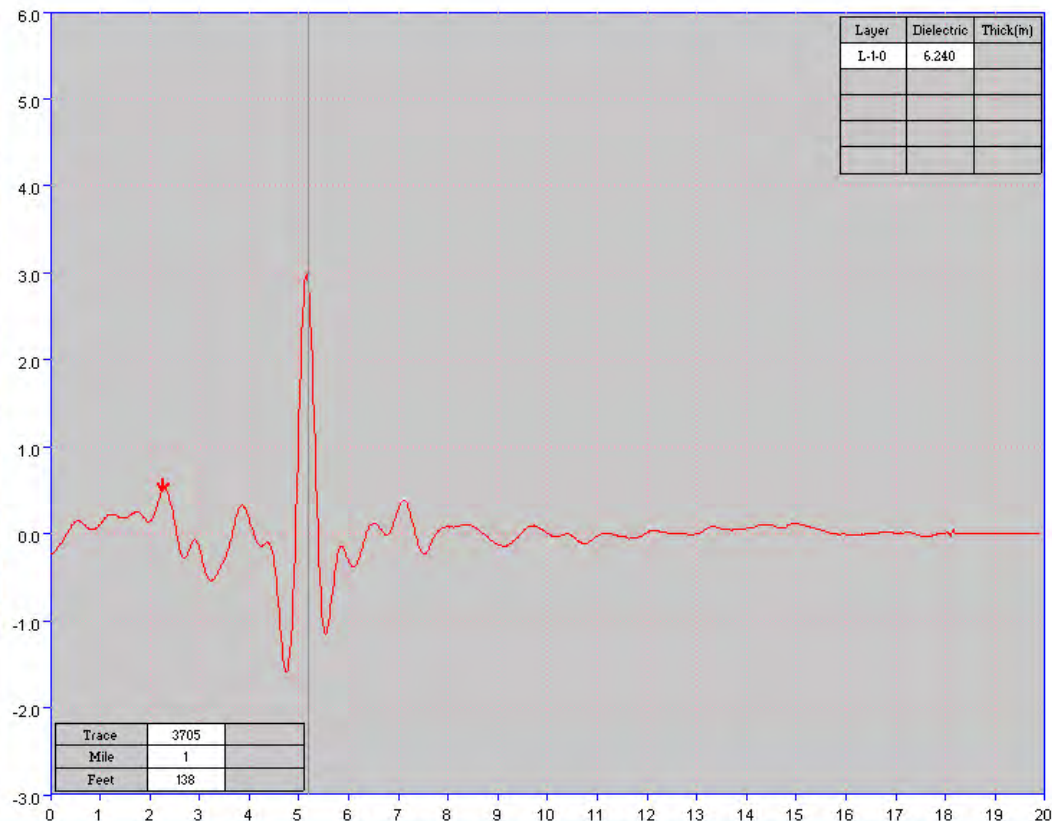
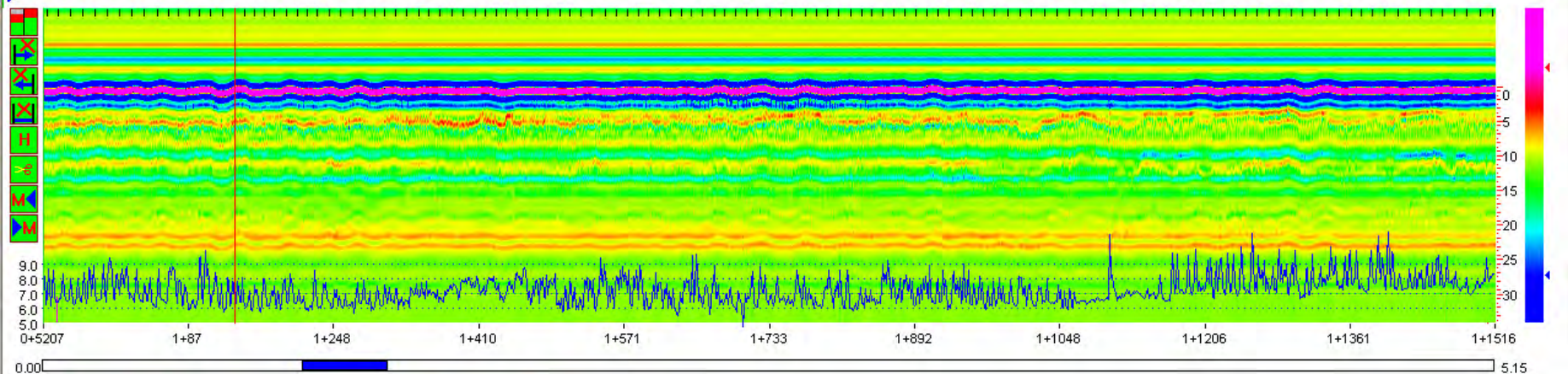
**SH 288 after Harvey, Oct. 2017**



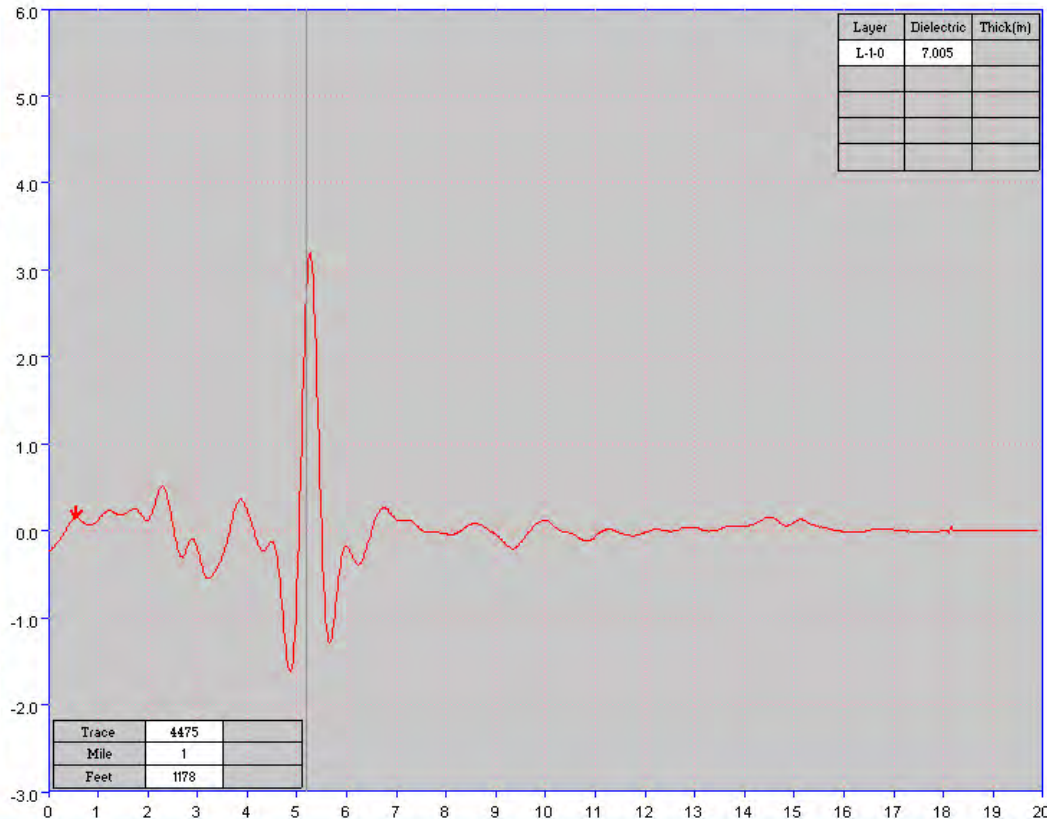
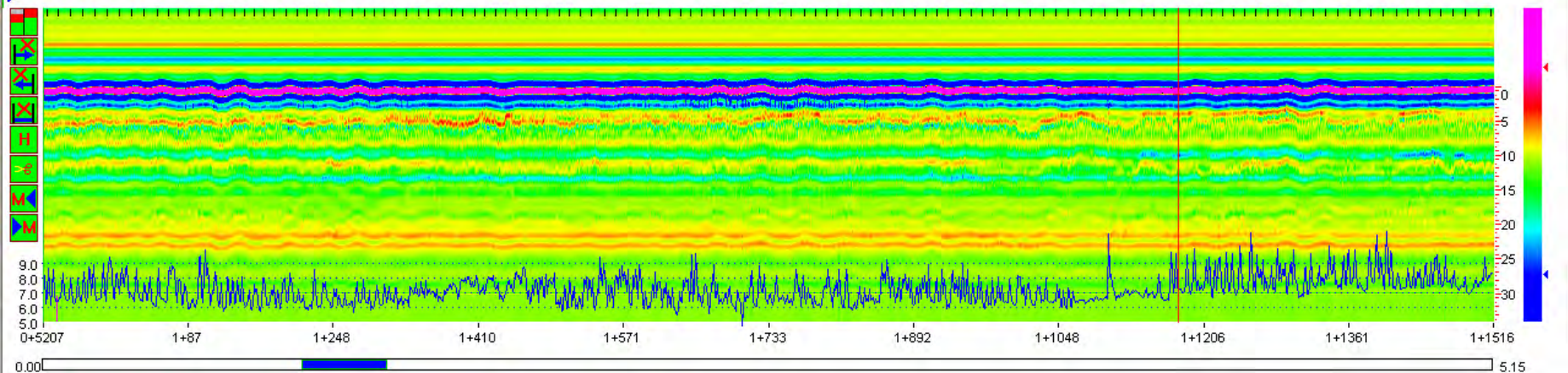
# **SH 288 Northbound Ground Penetrating Radar Data October, 2017**



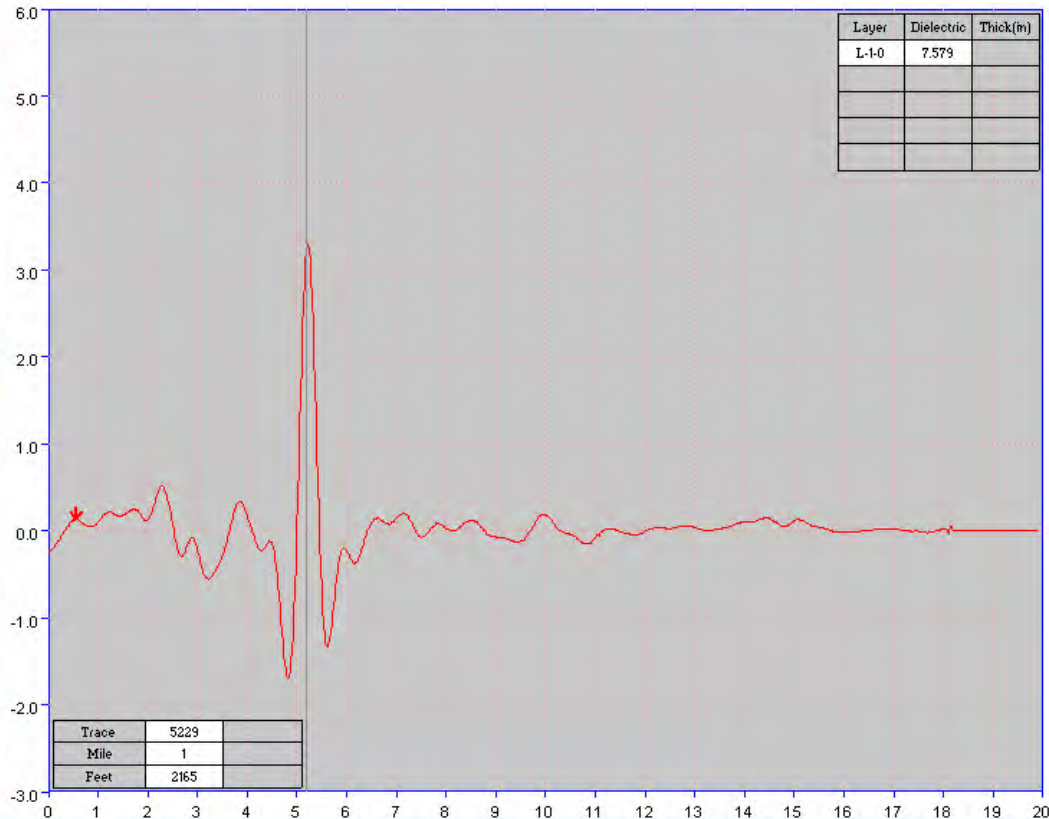
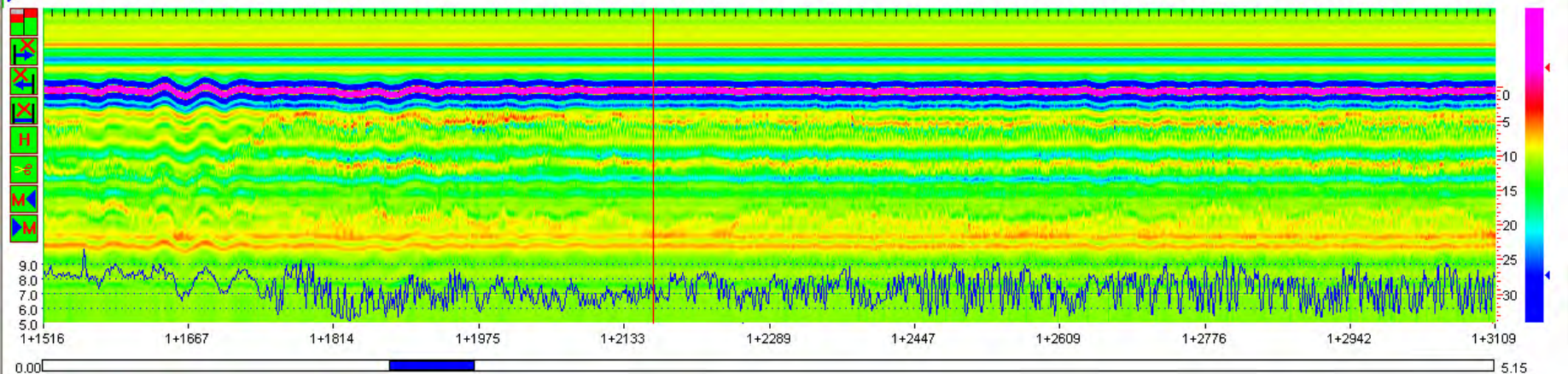




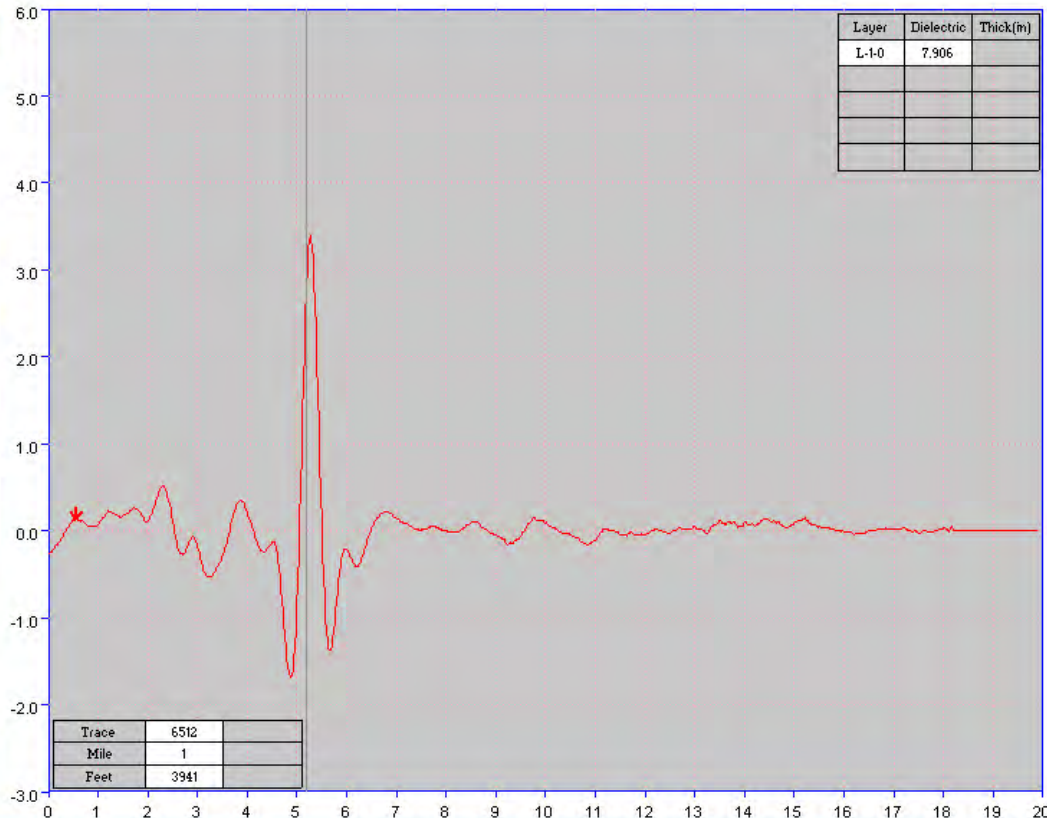
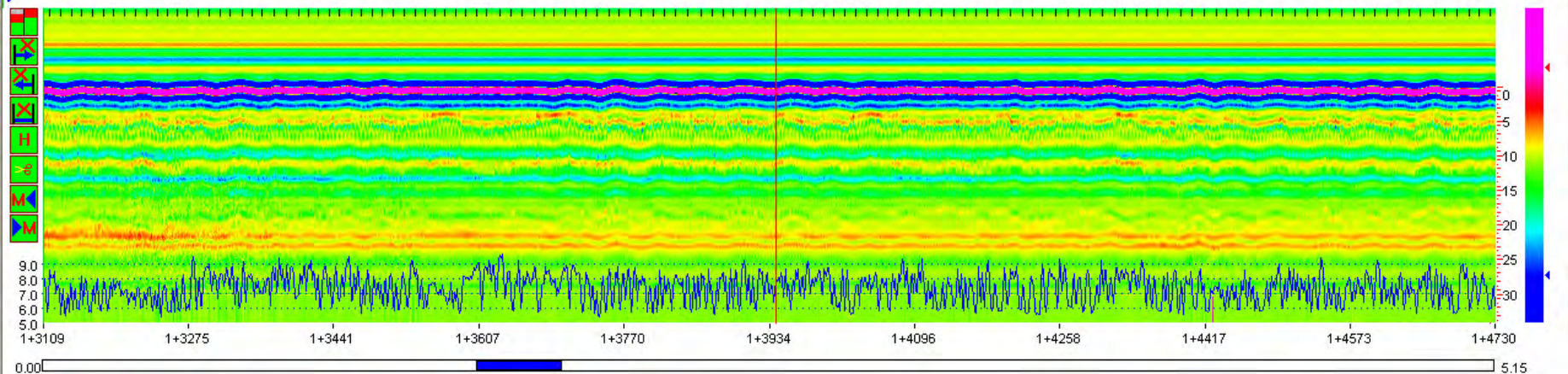




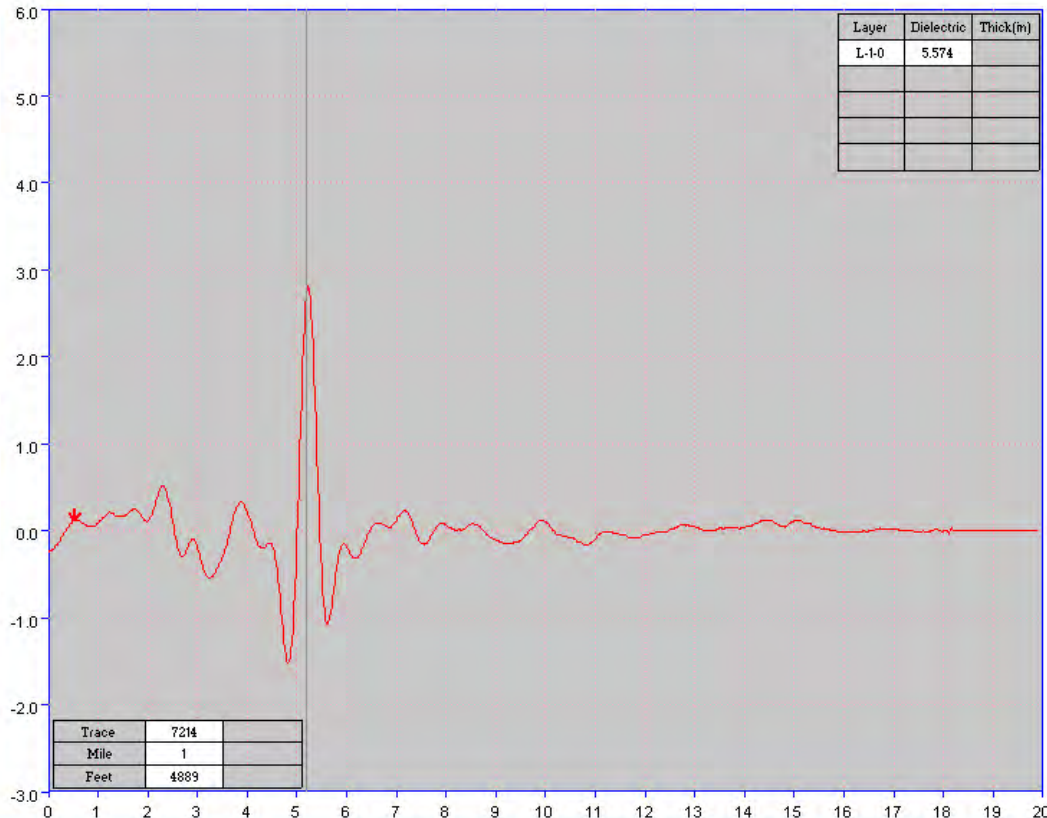
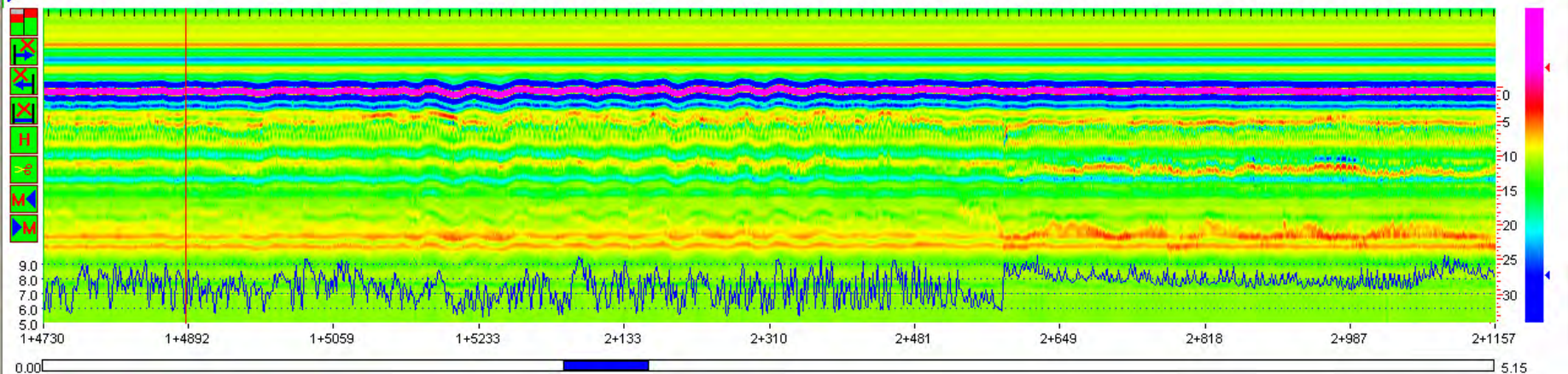




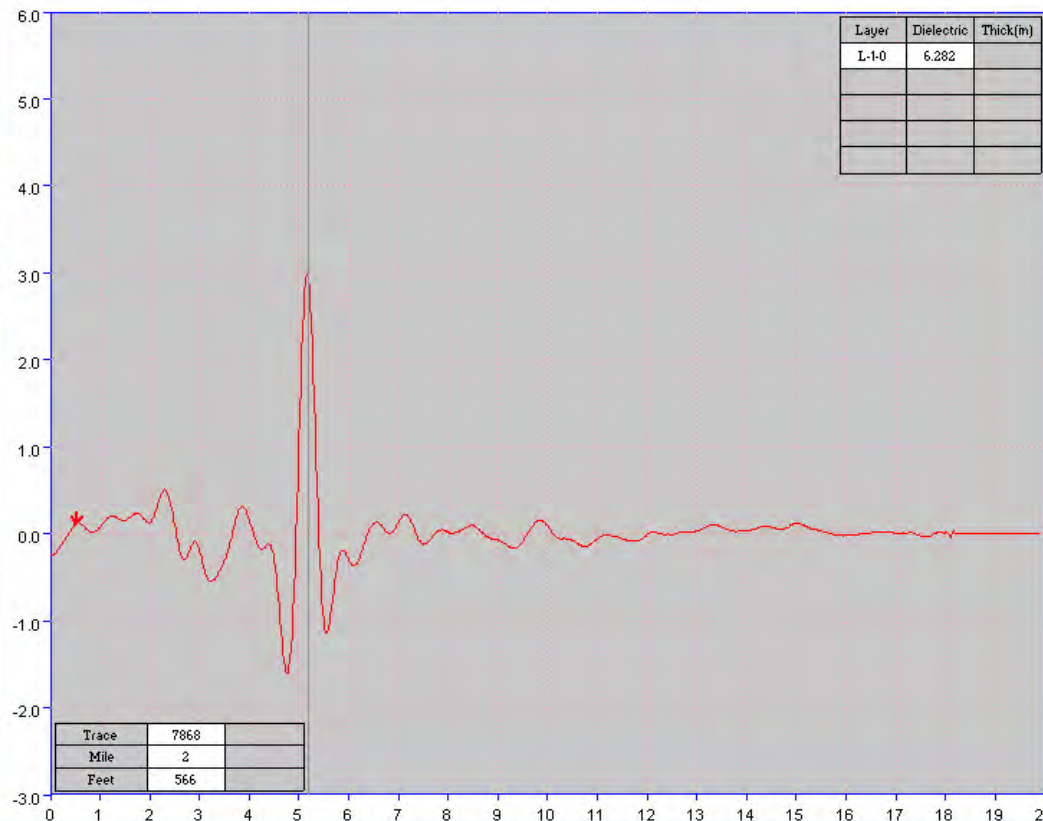
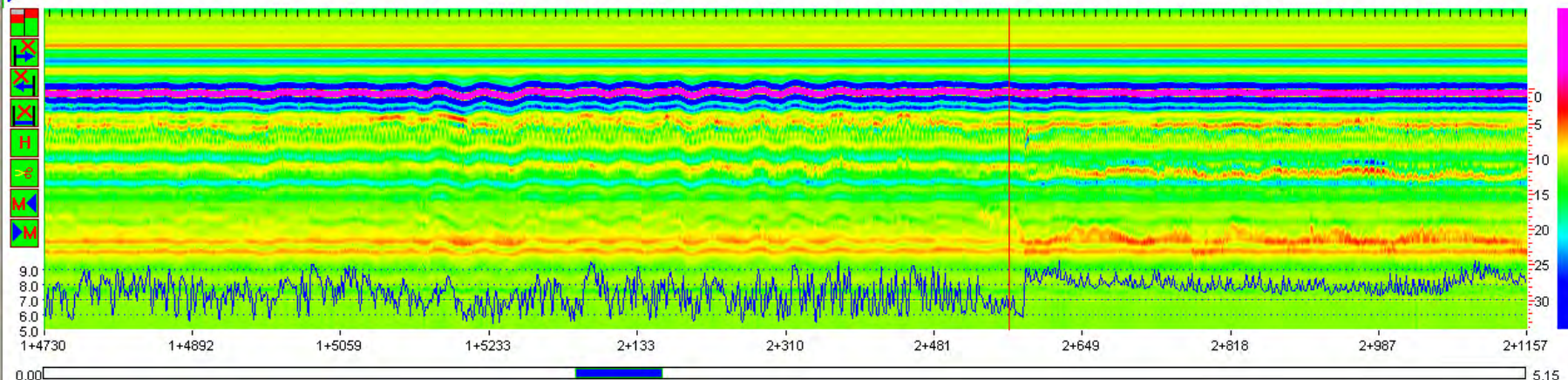




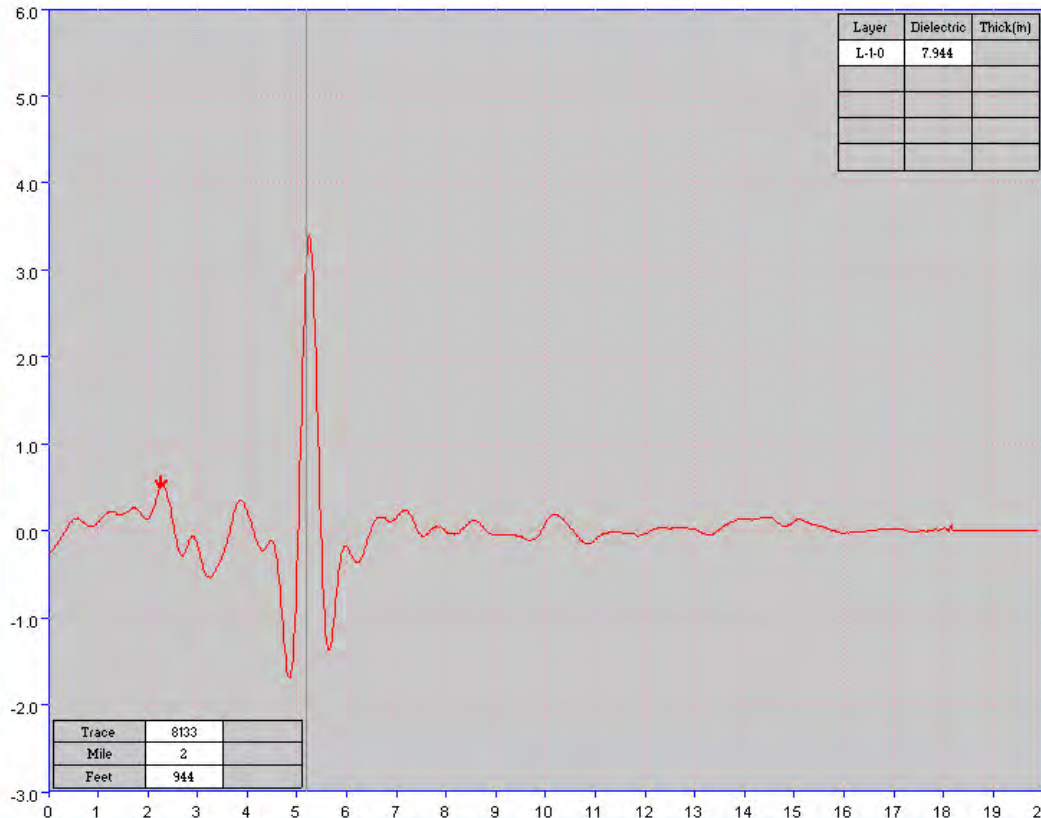
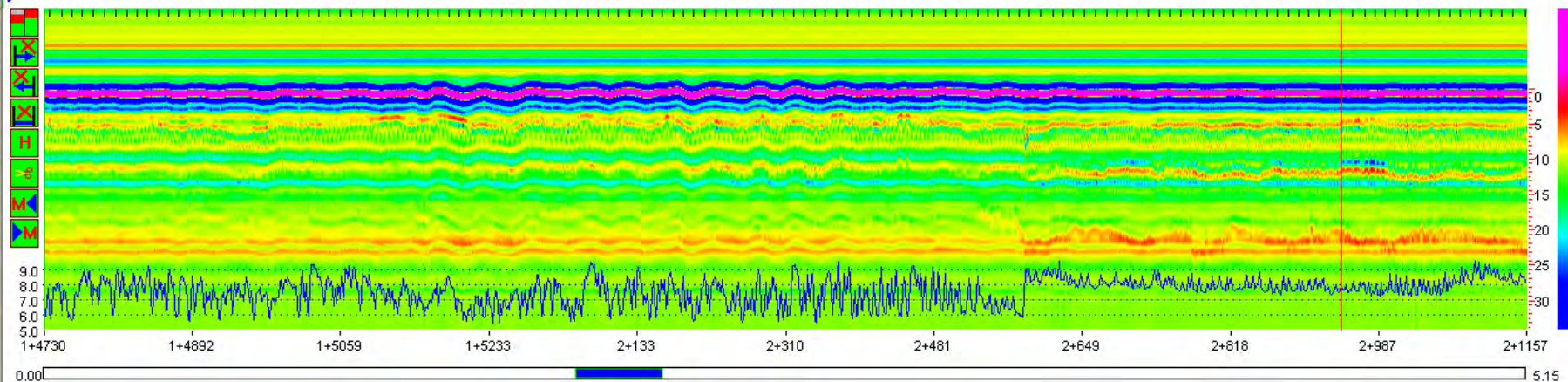




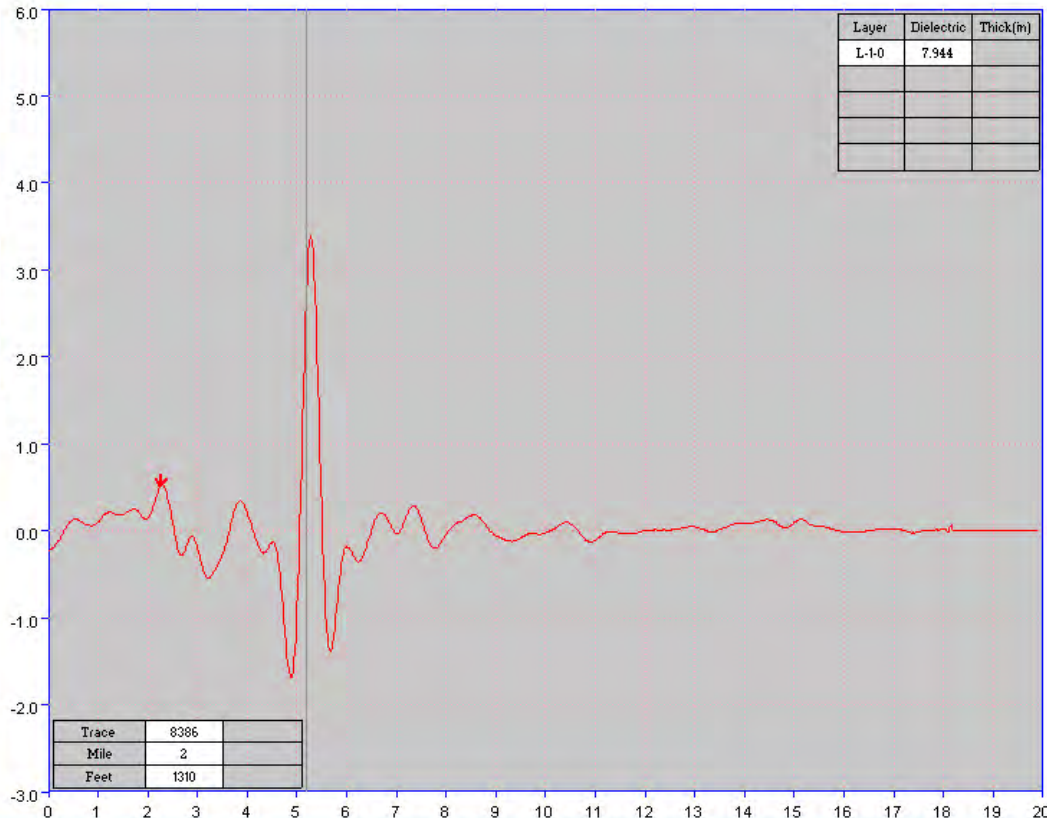
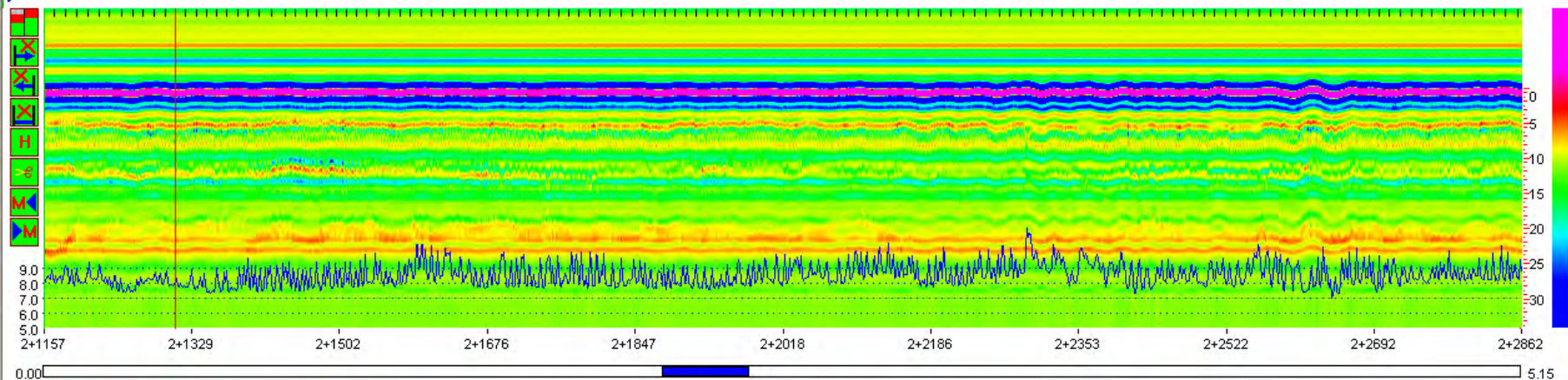




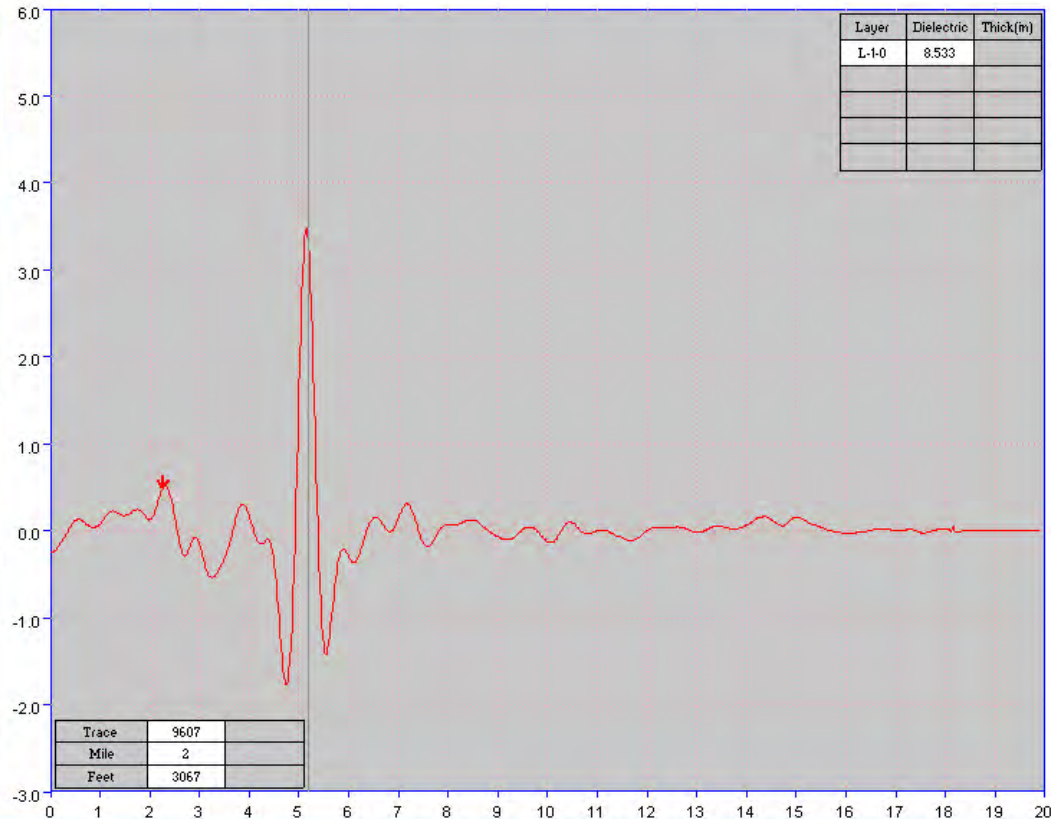
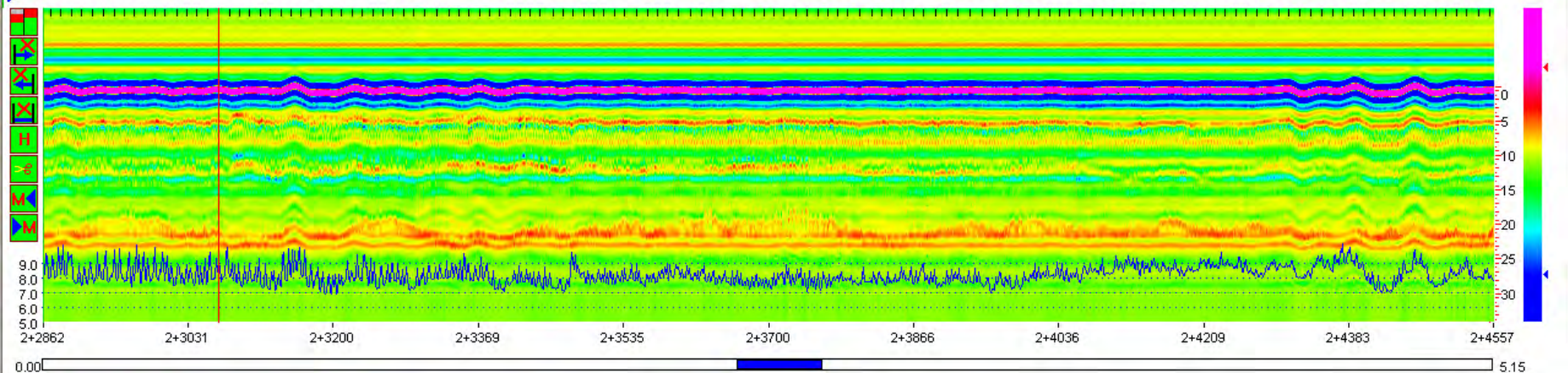




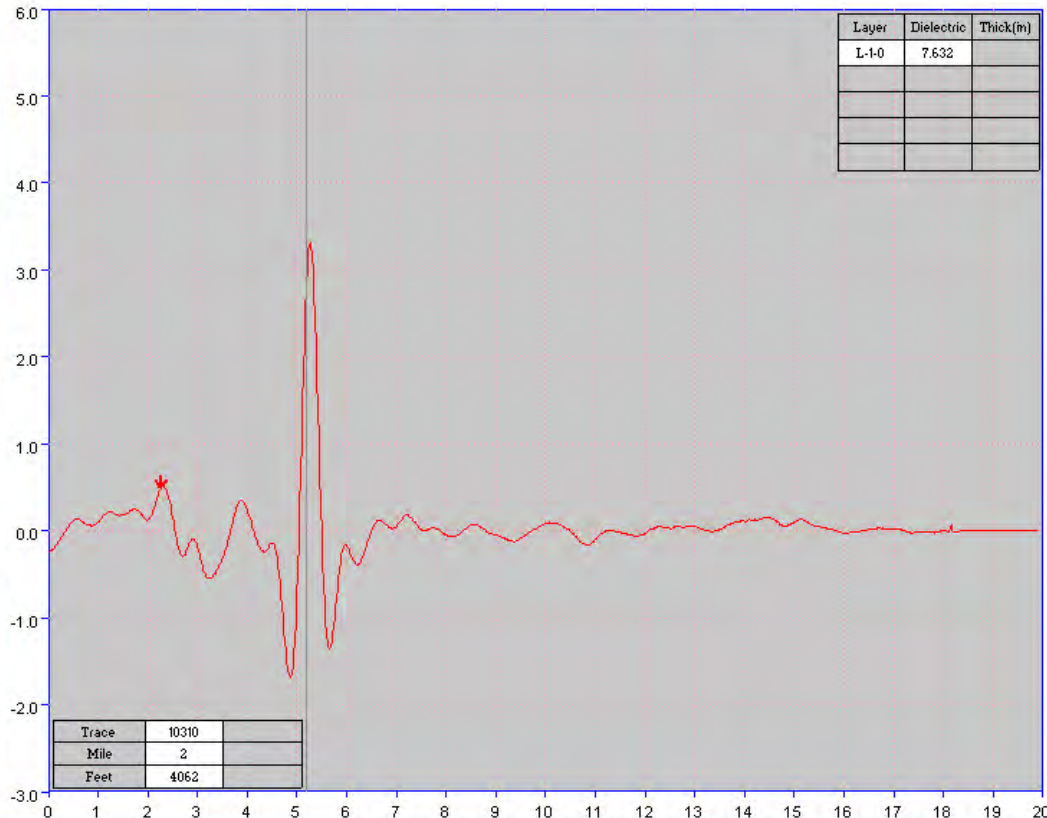
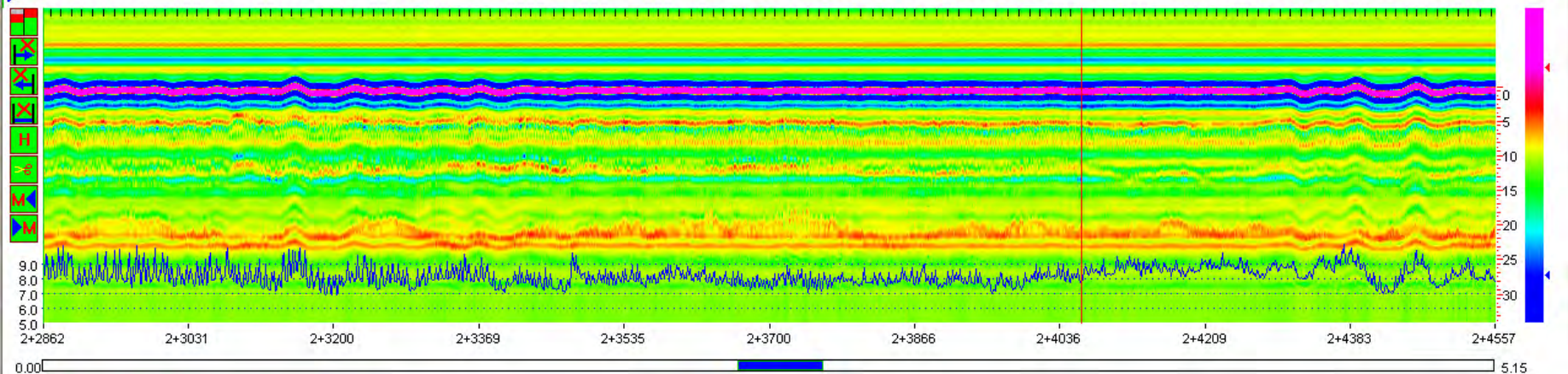




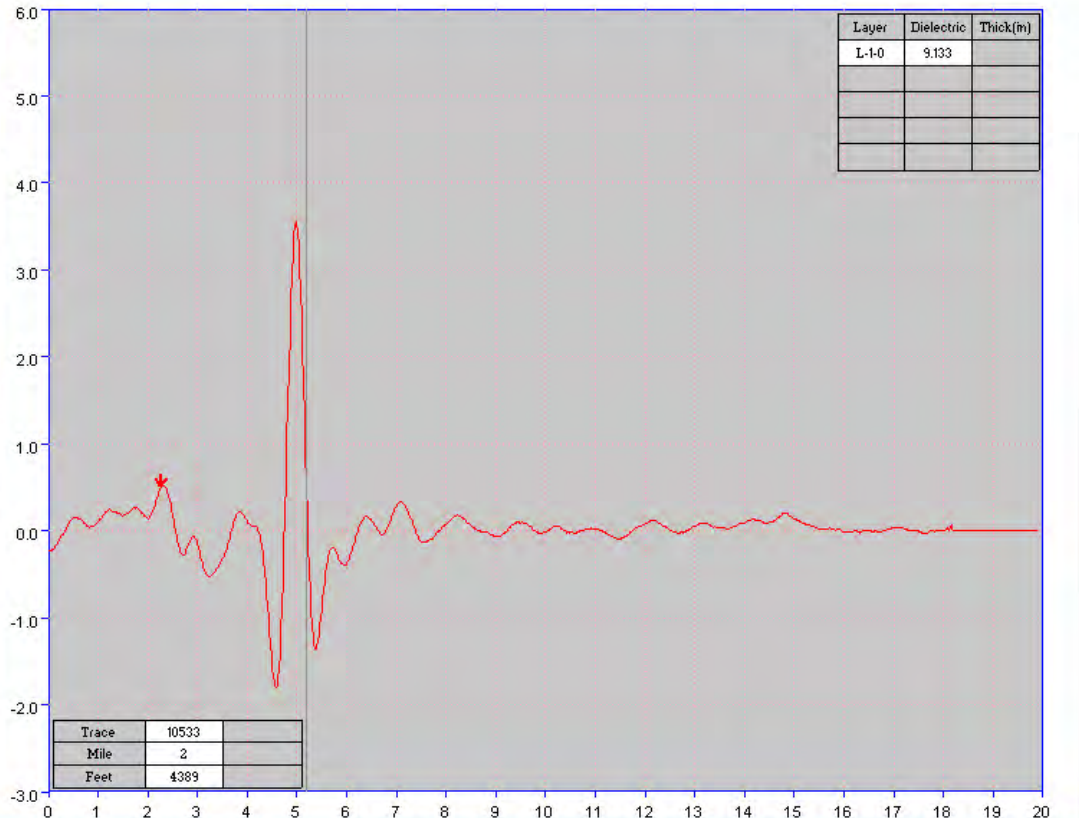
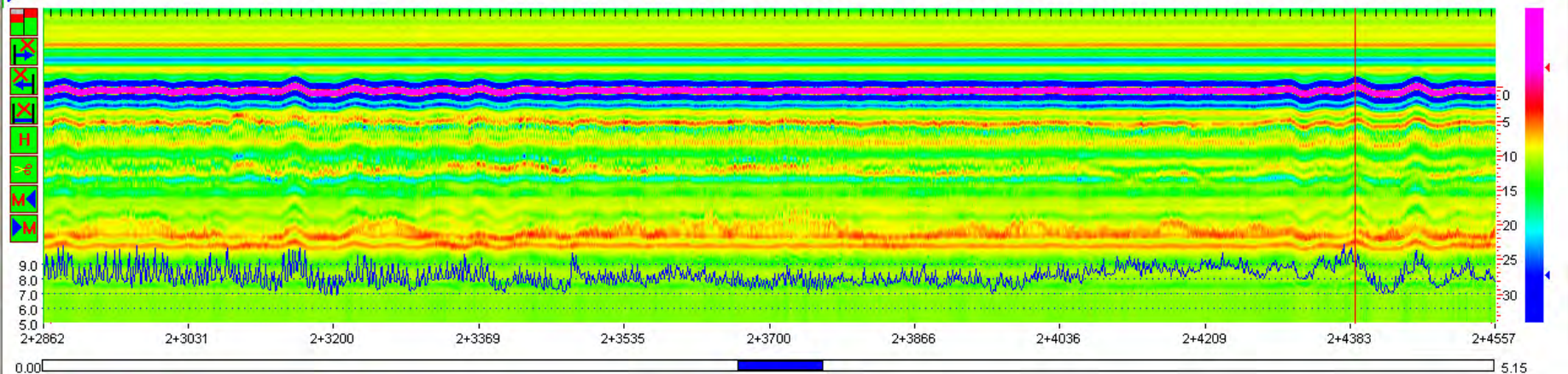




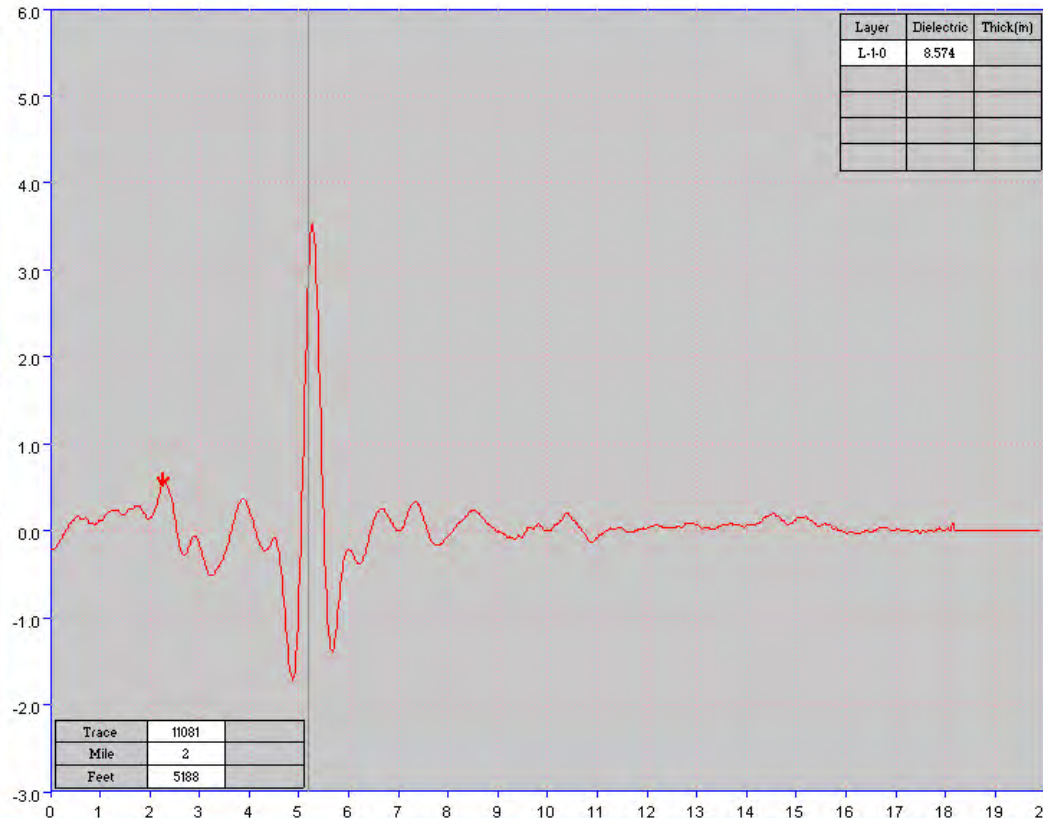
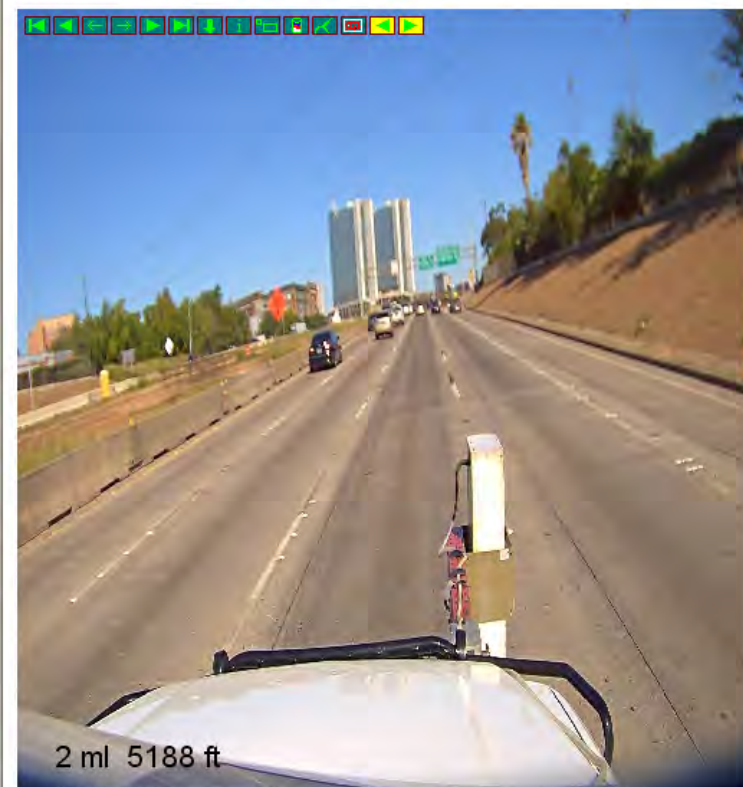
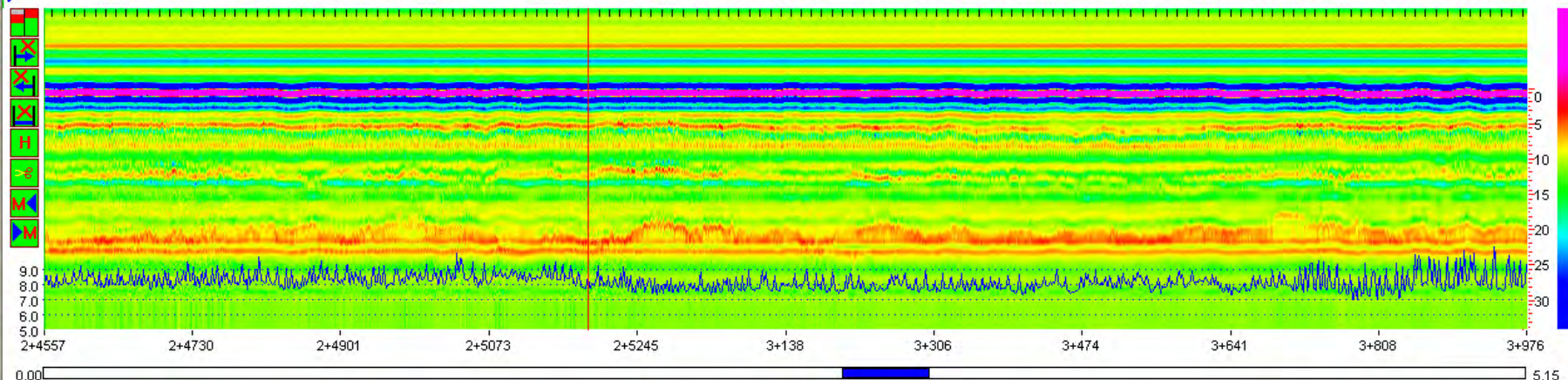




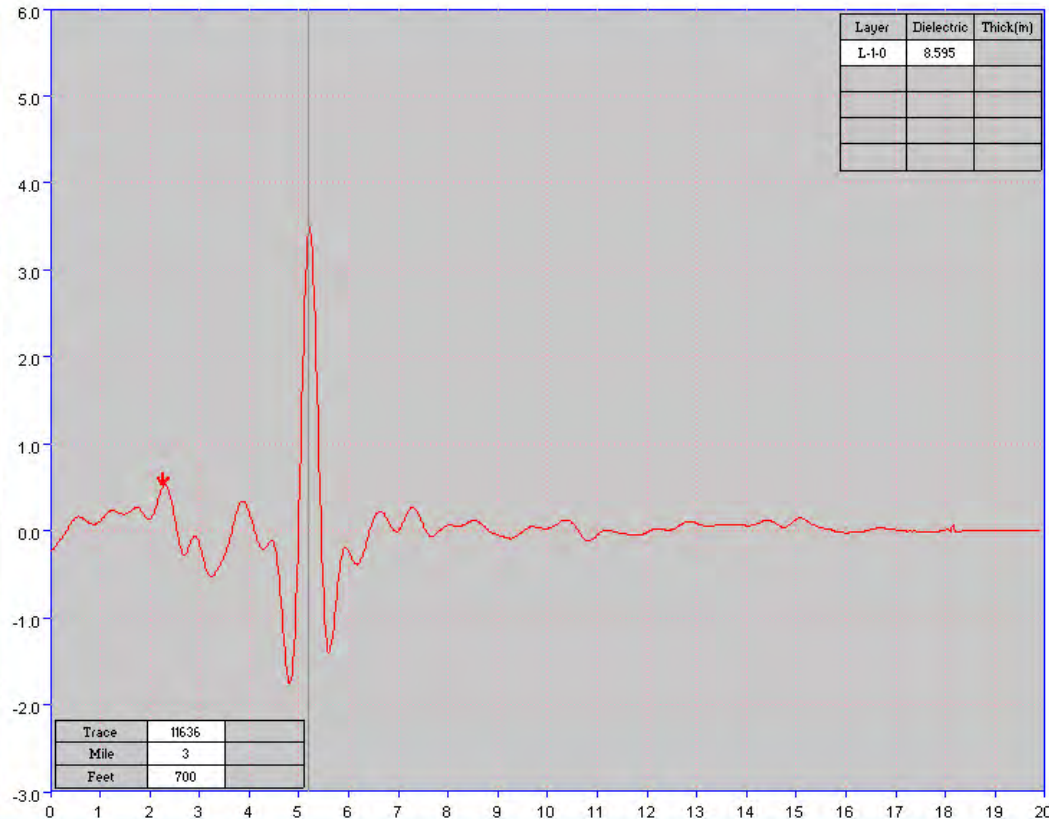
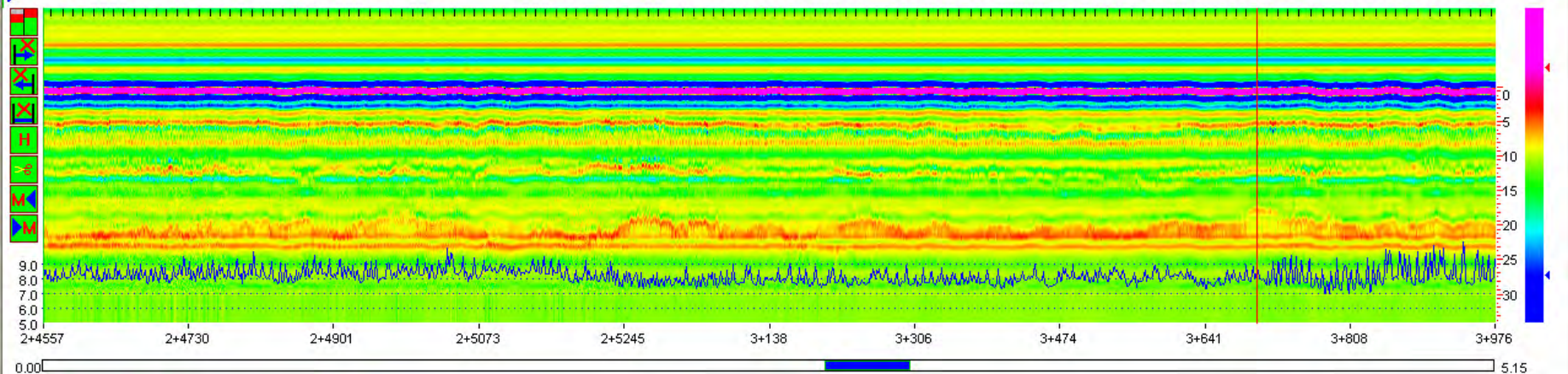




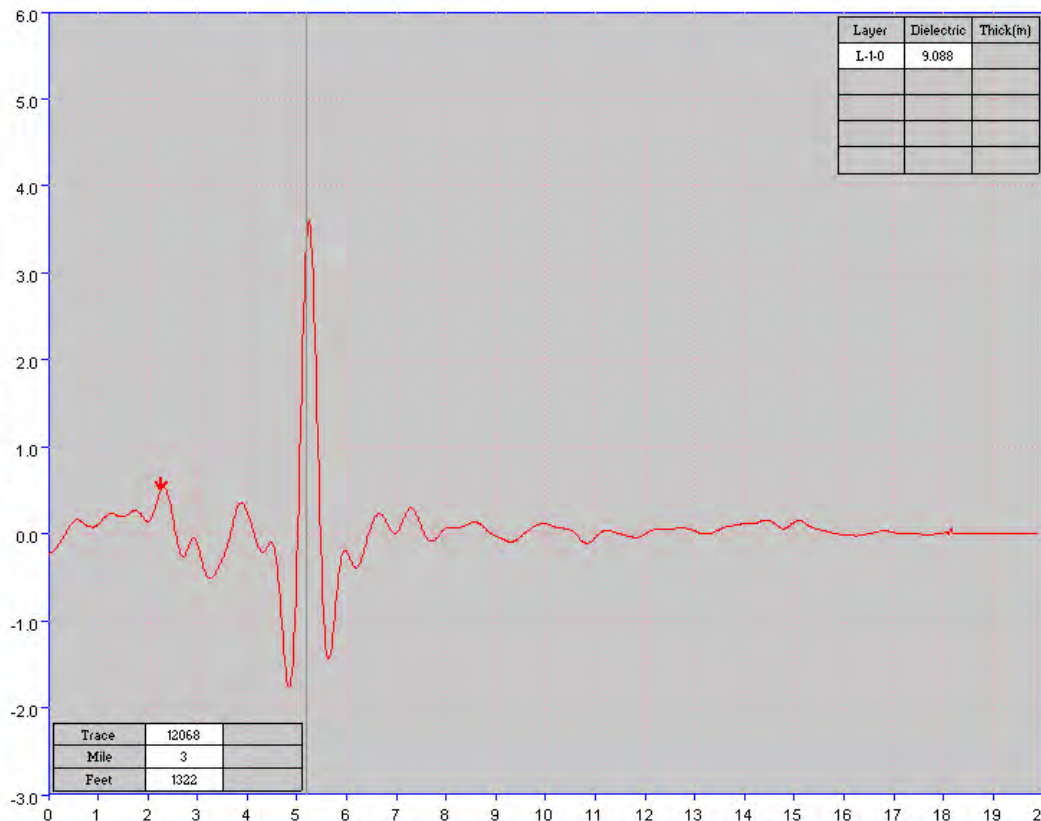
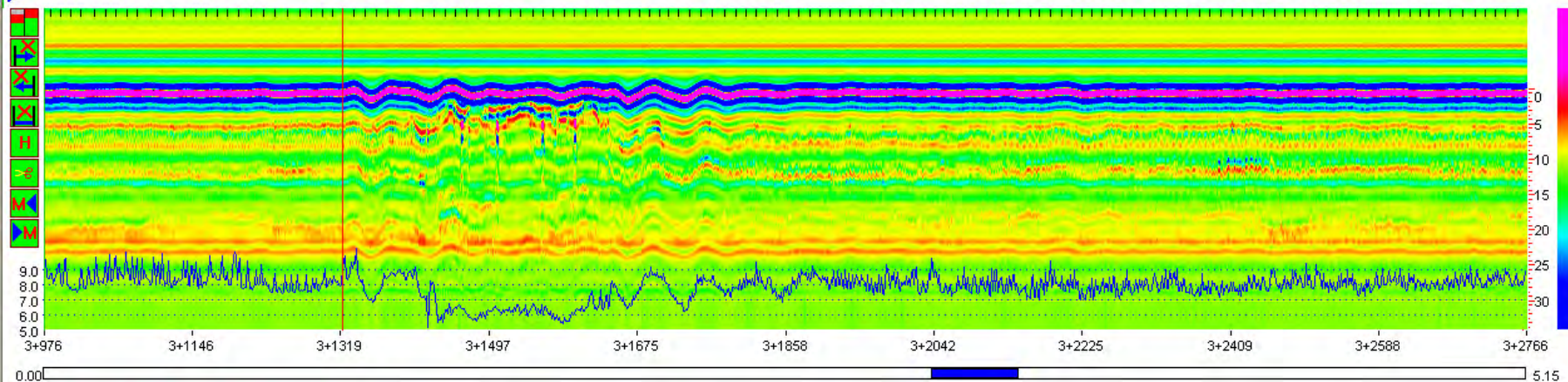
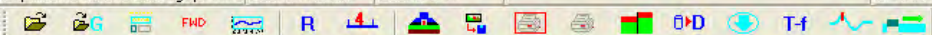




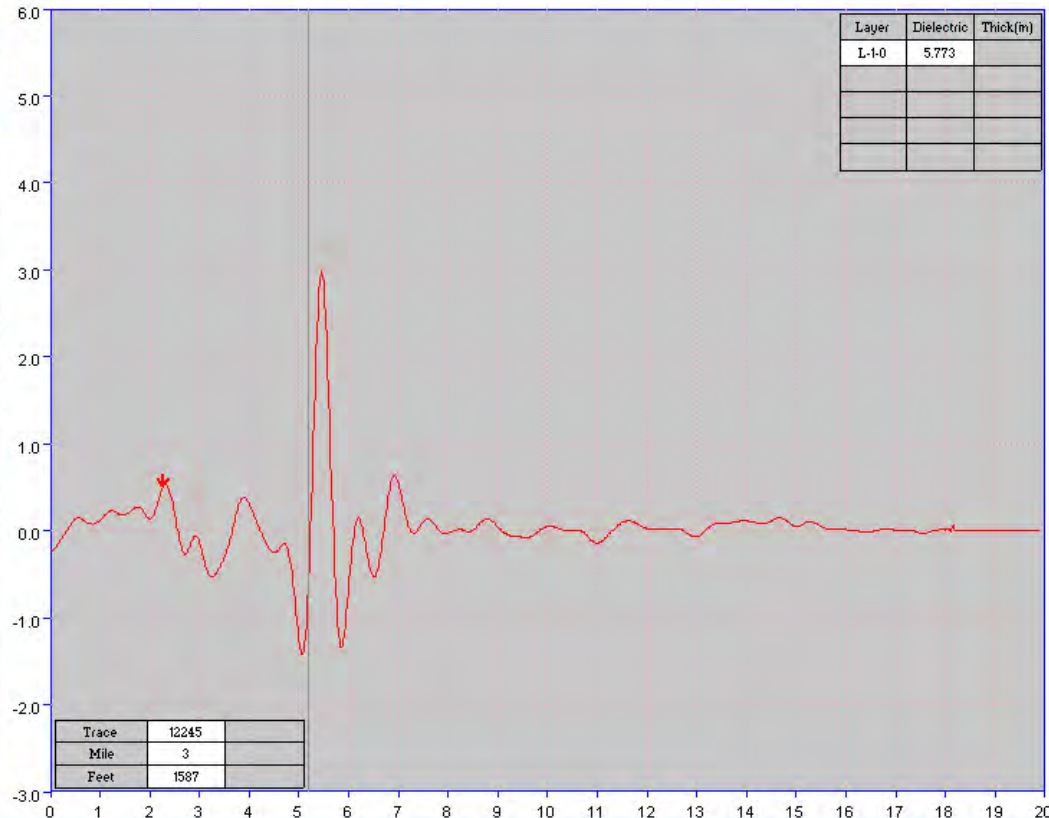
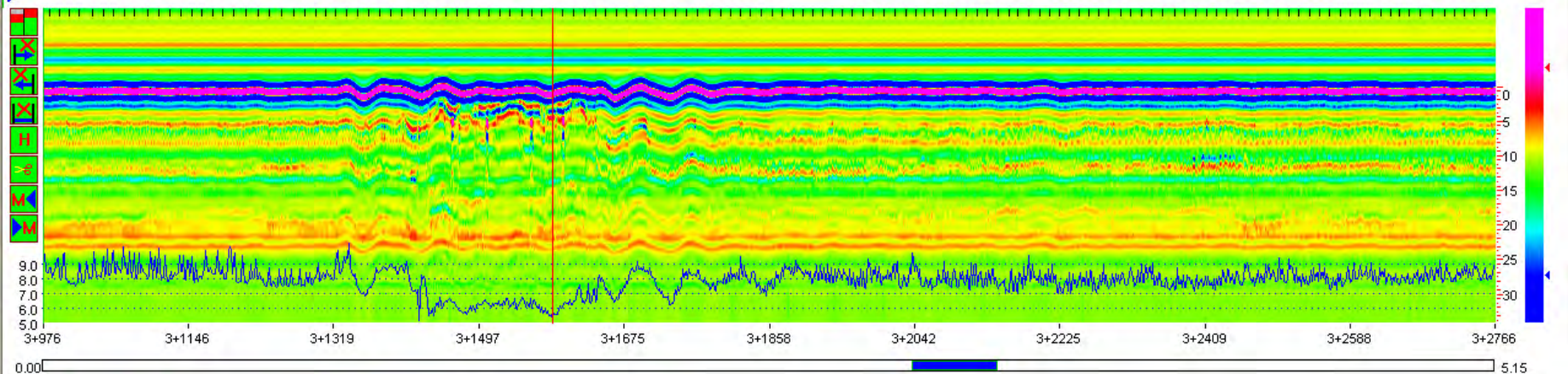




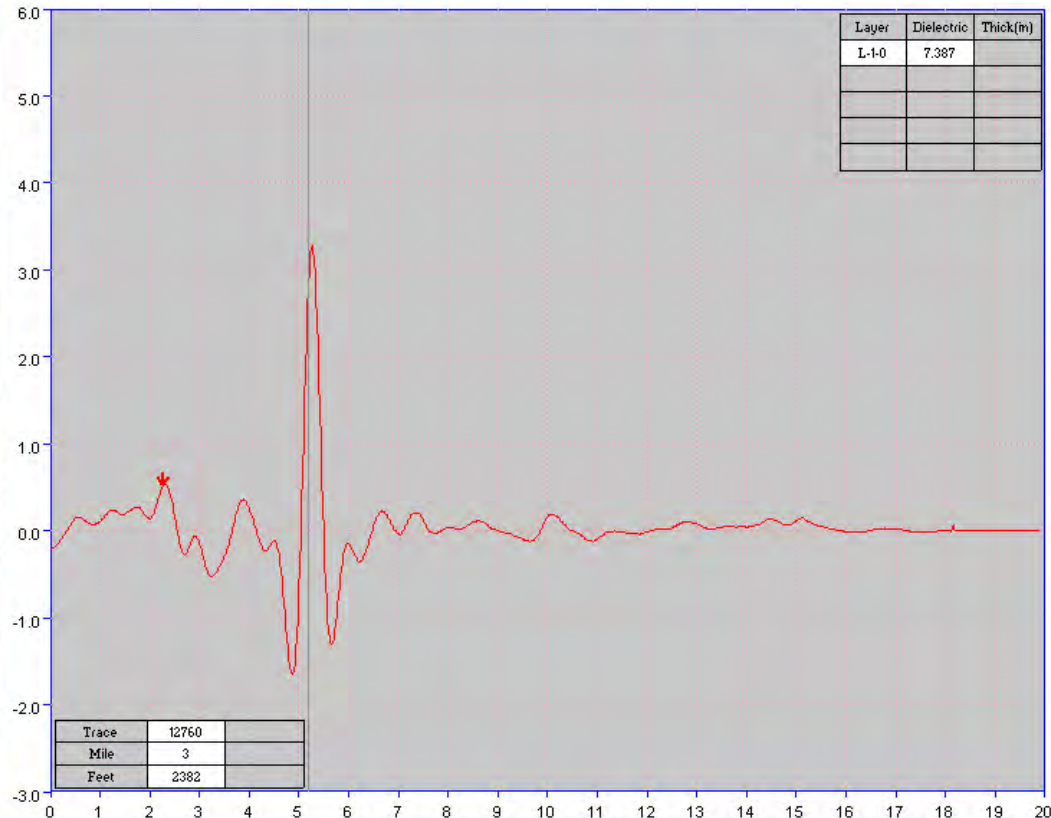
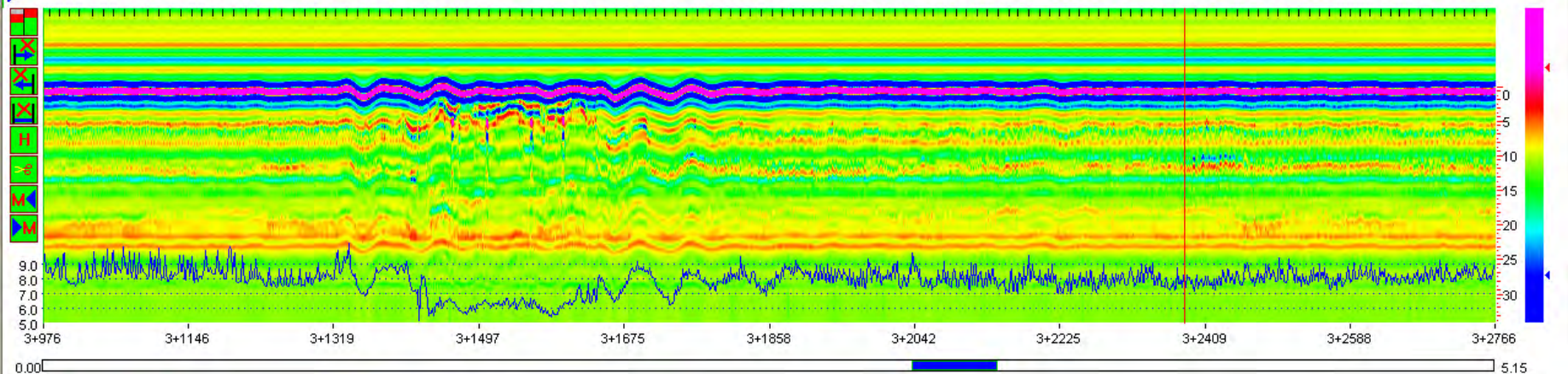




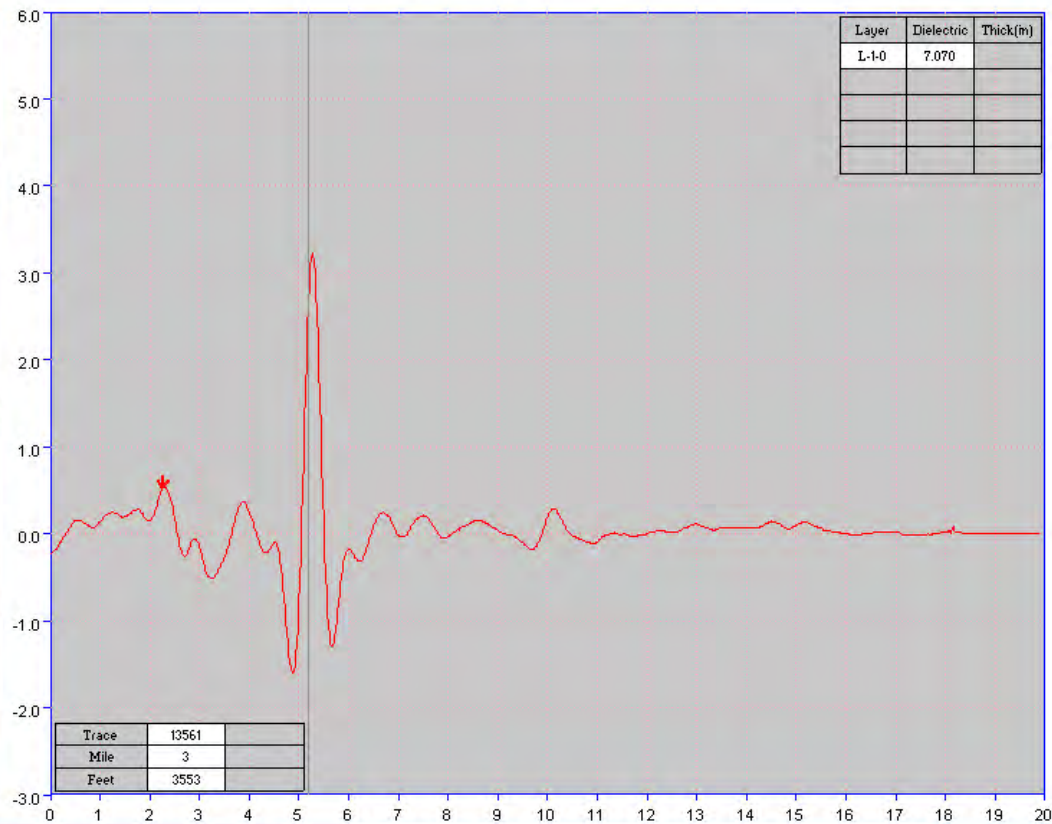




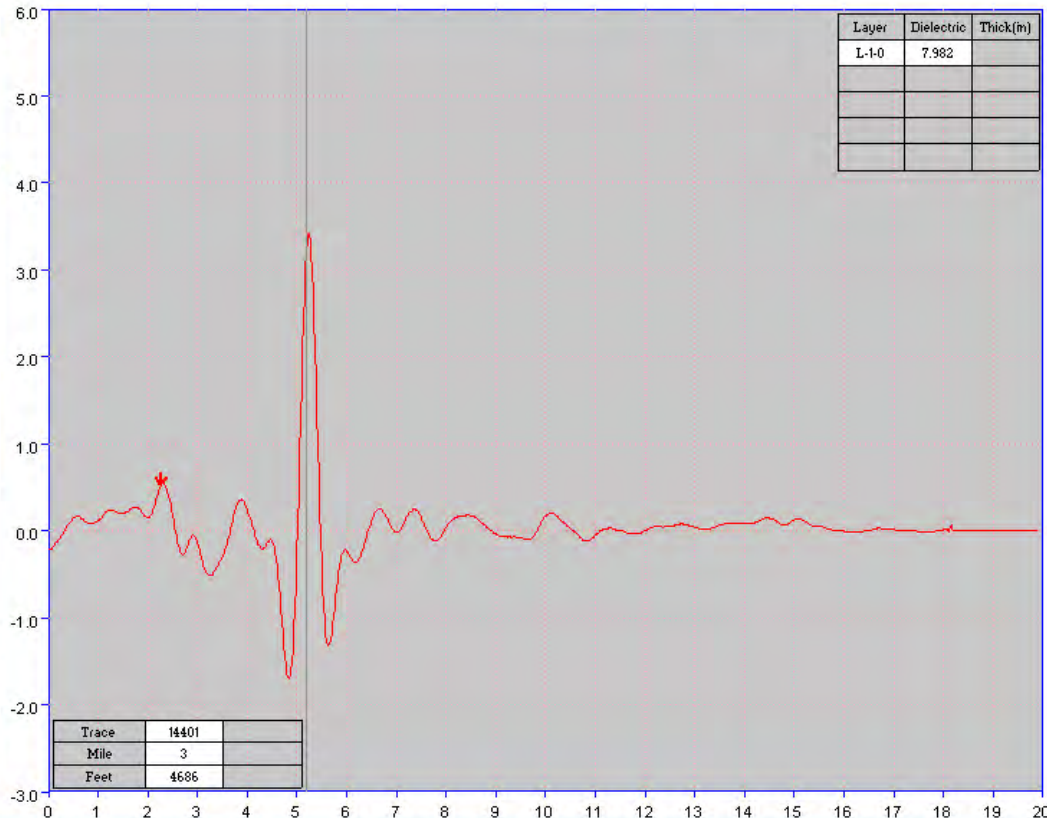
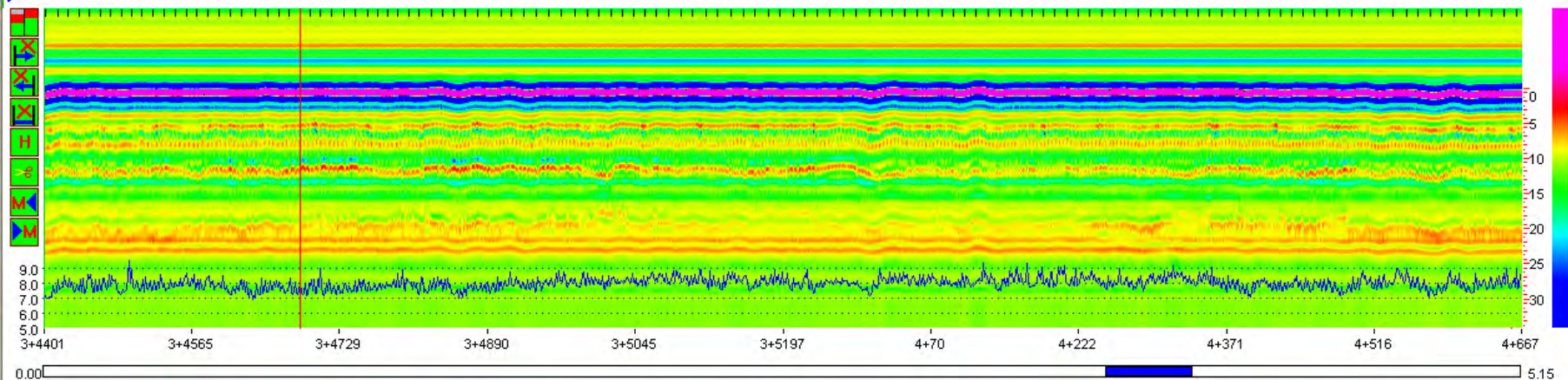




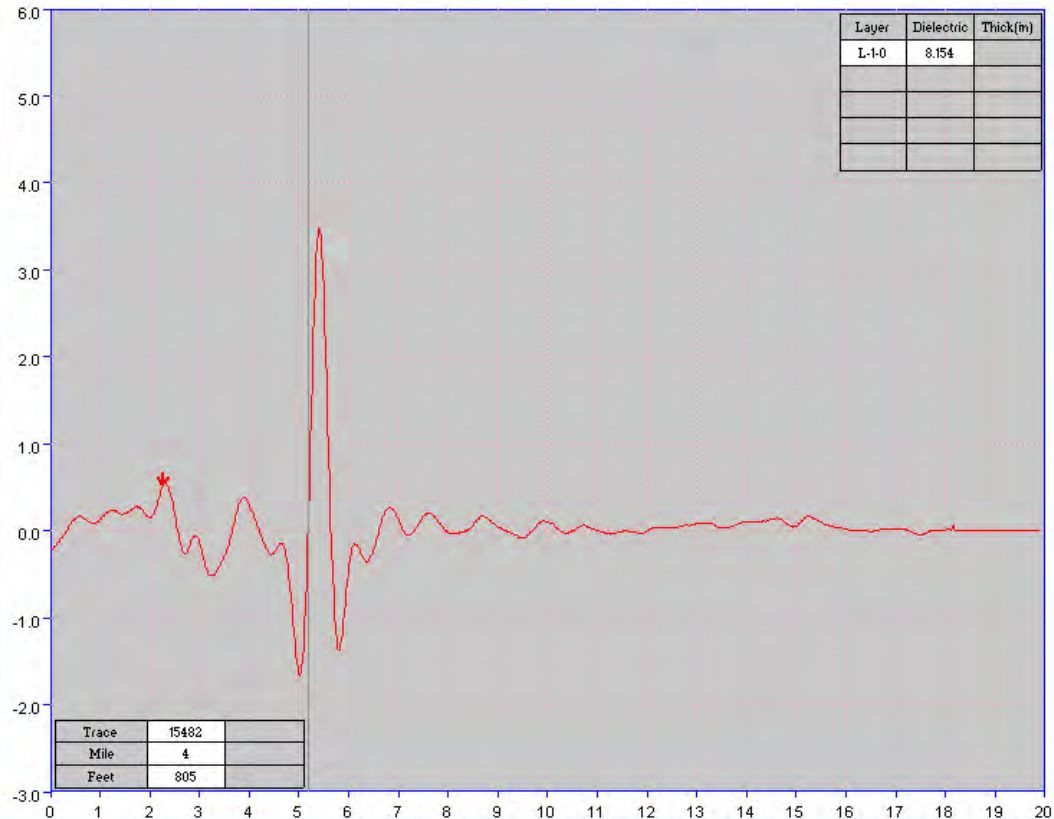
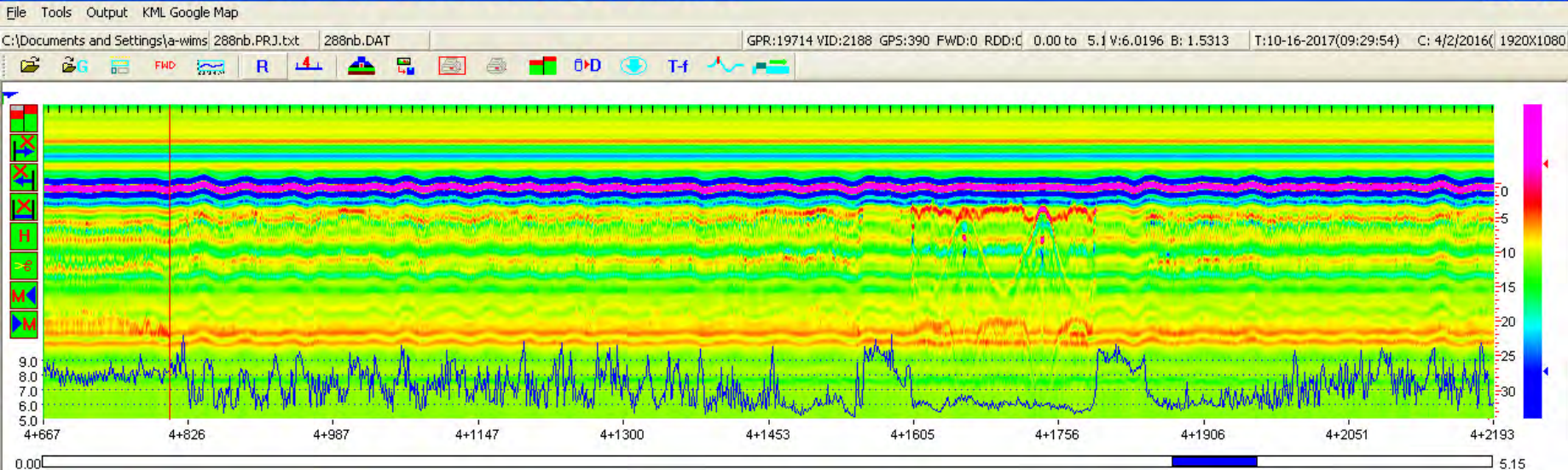




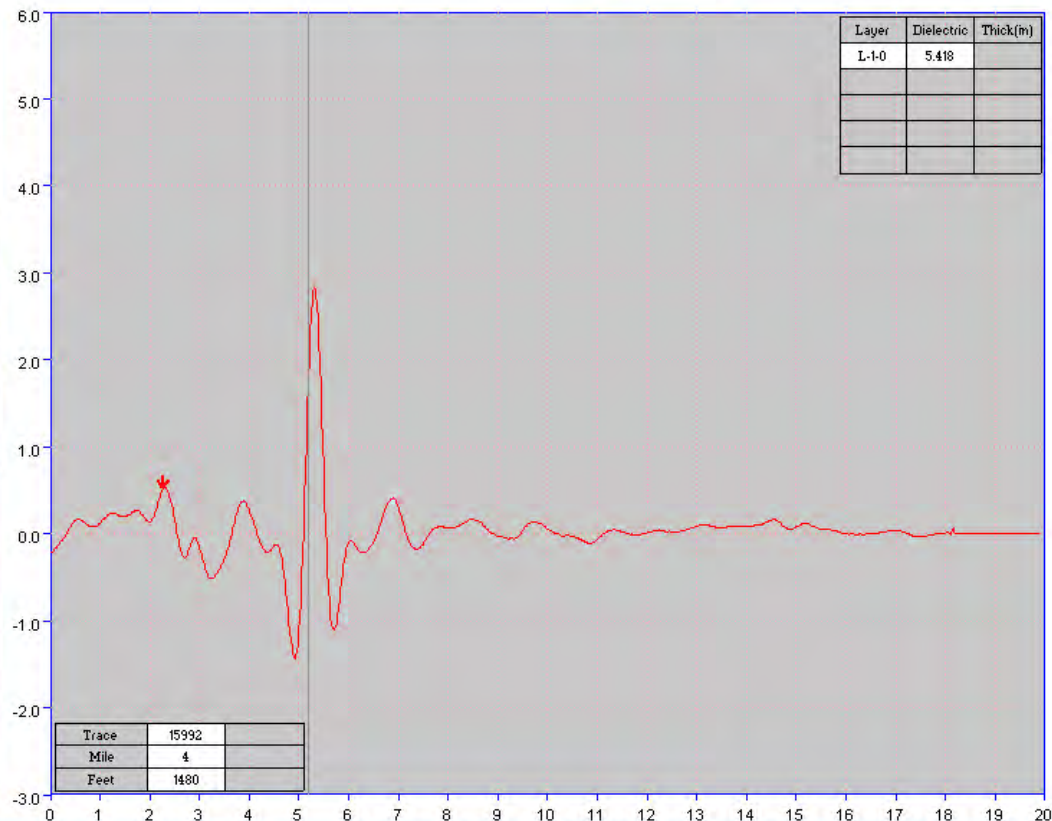
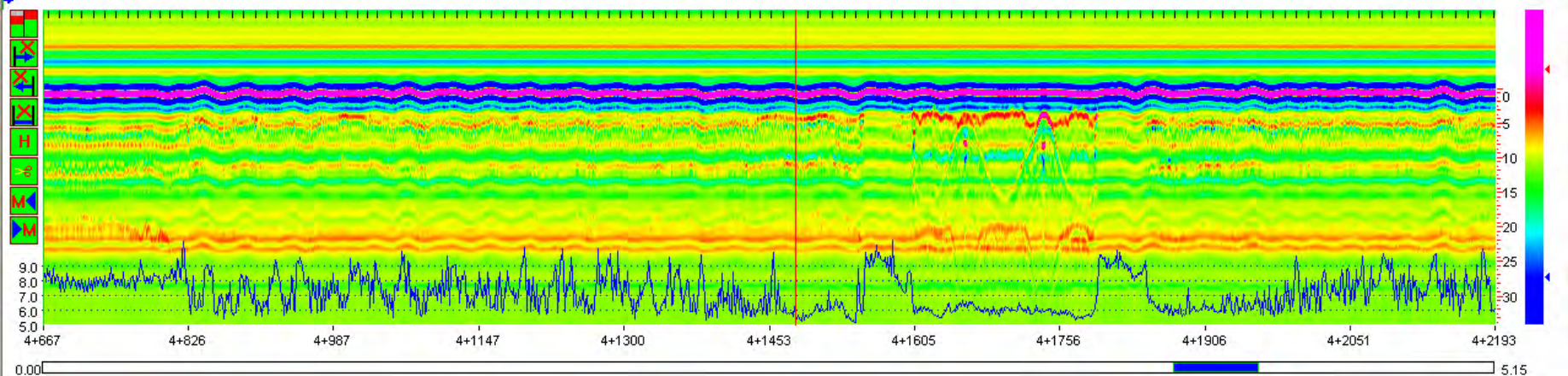




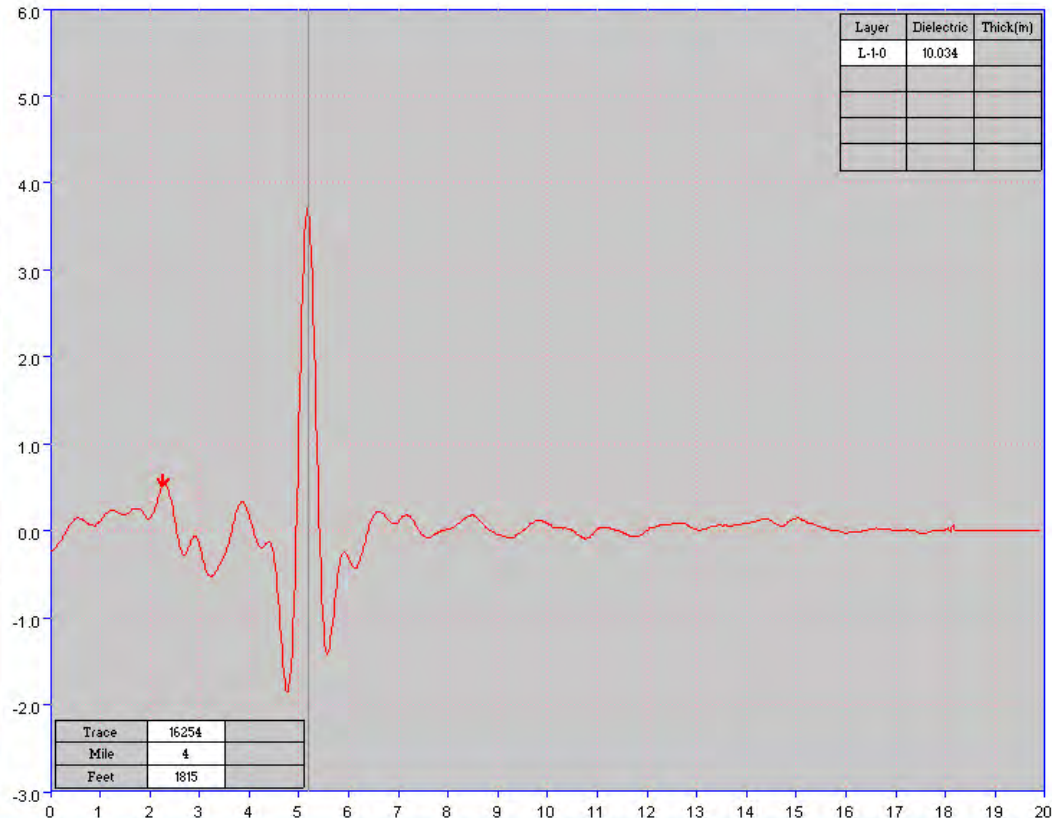
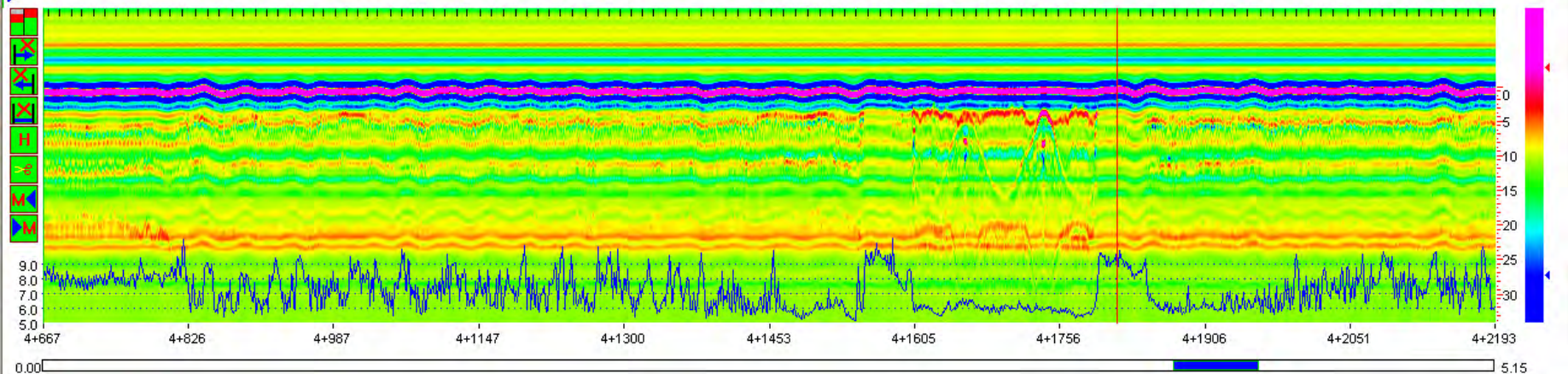




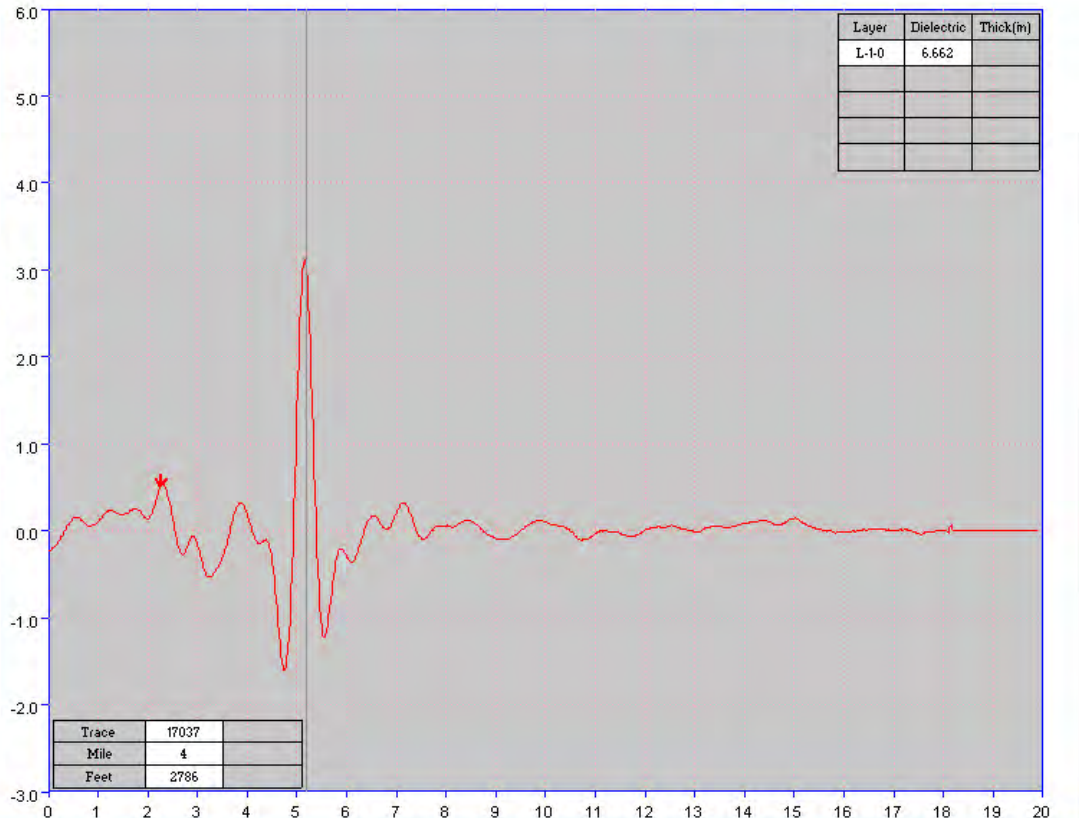
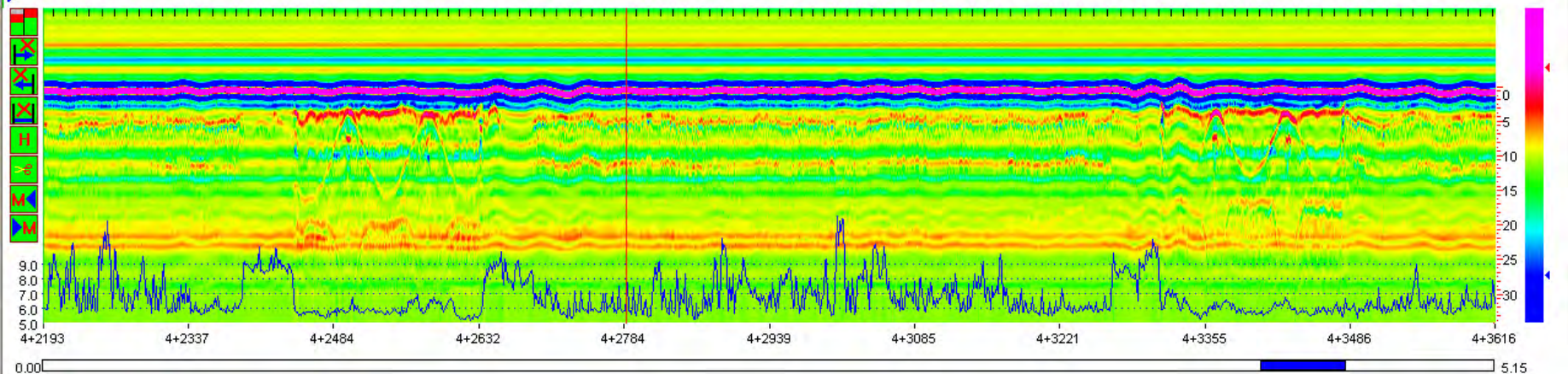




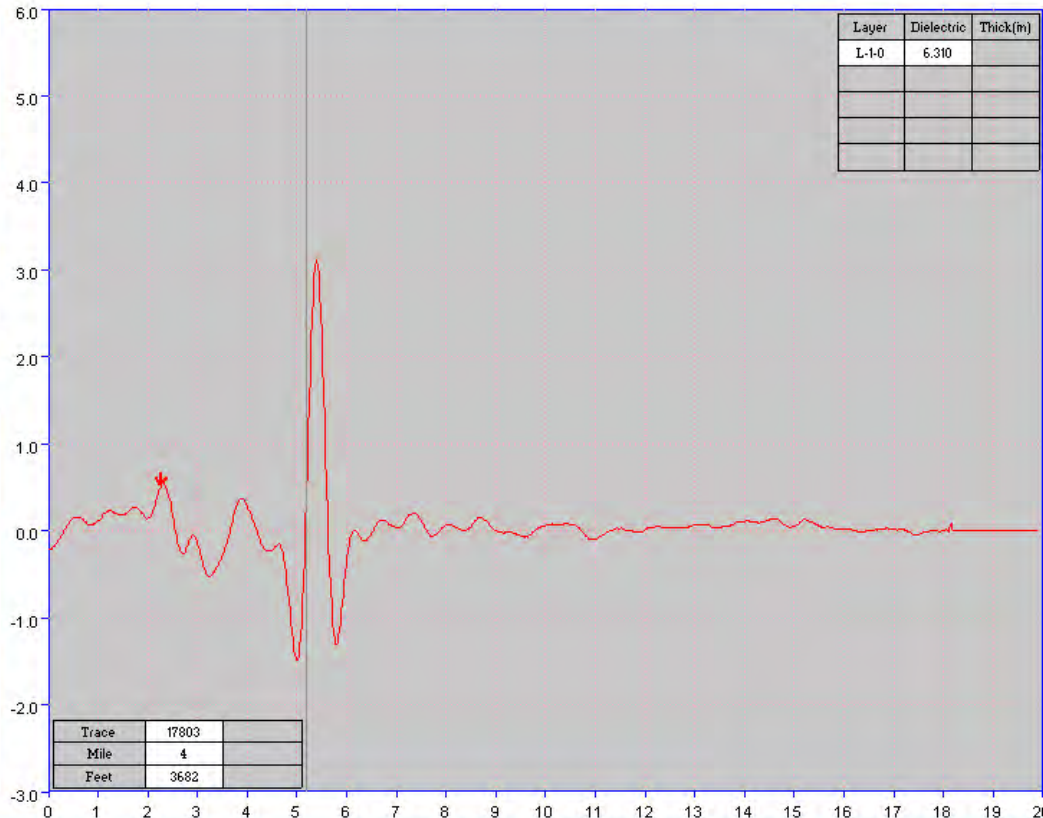
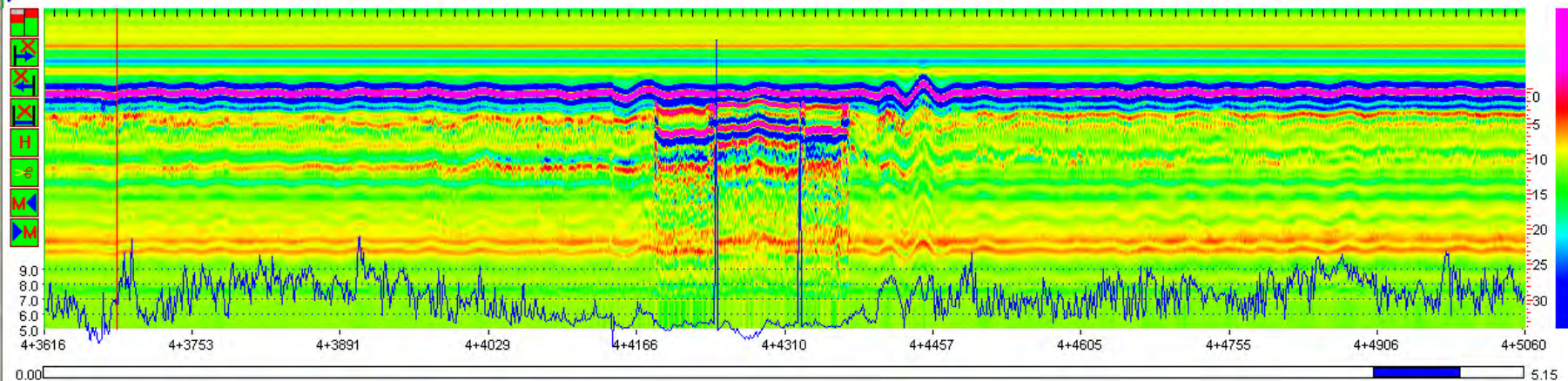




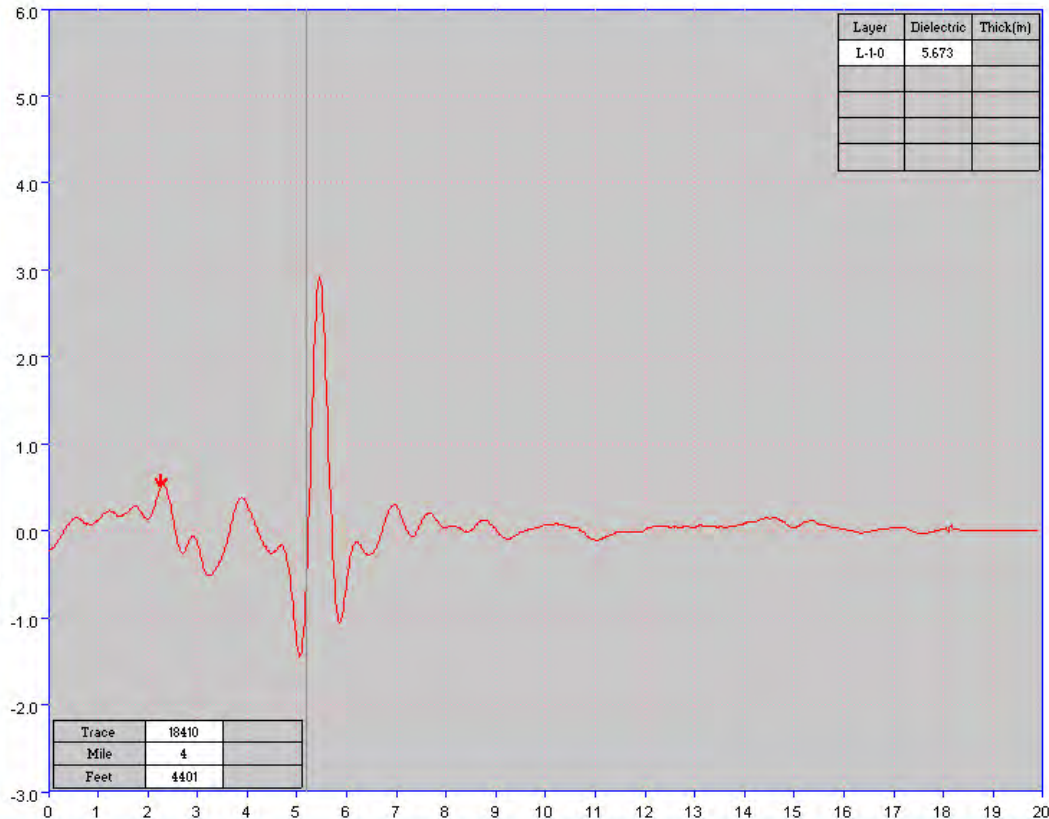
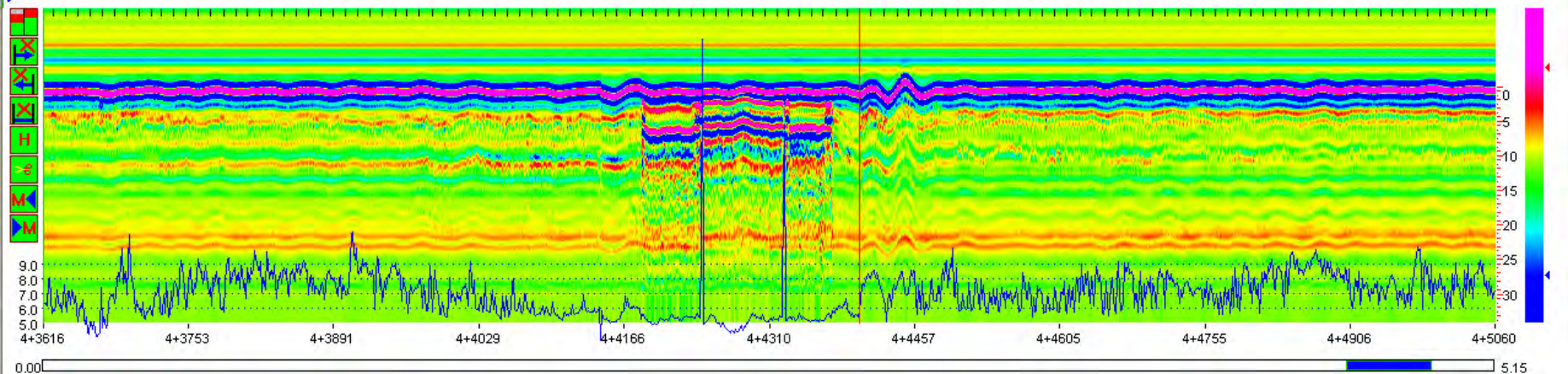




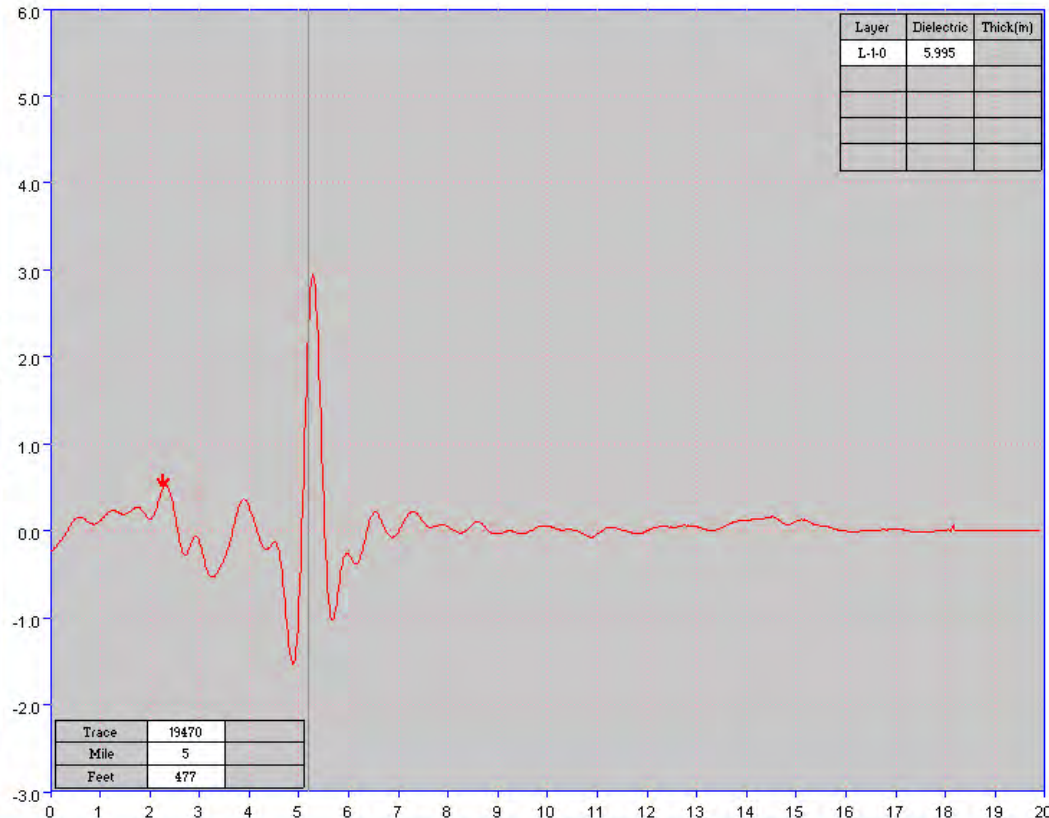
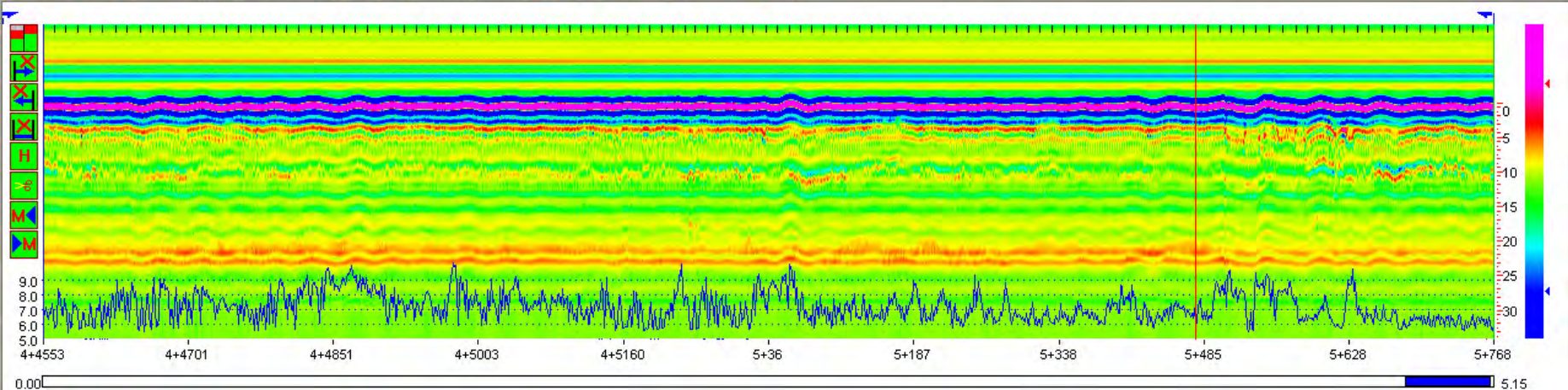






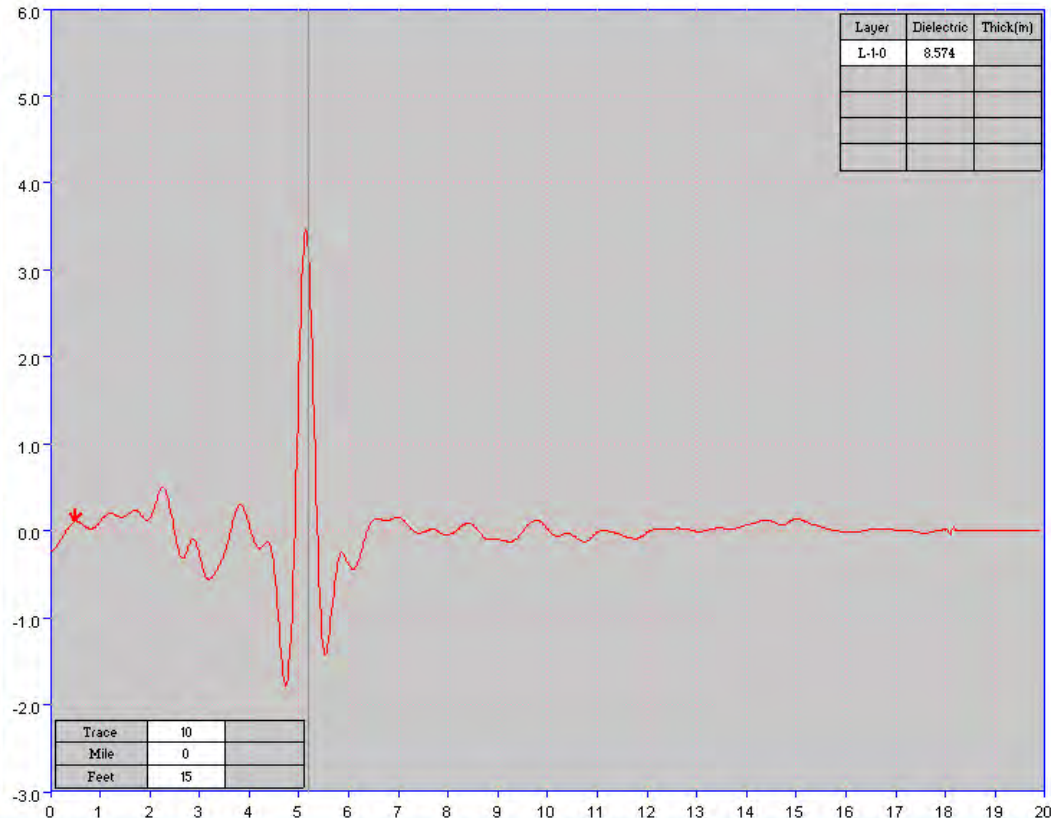
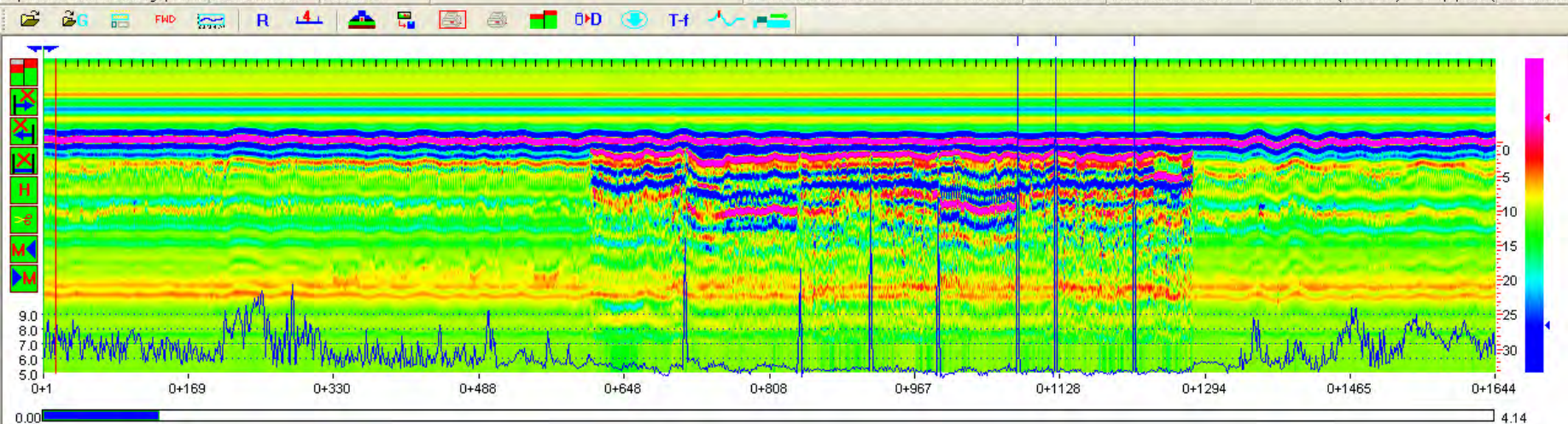




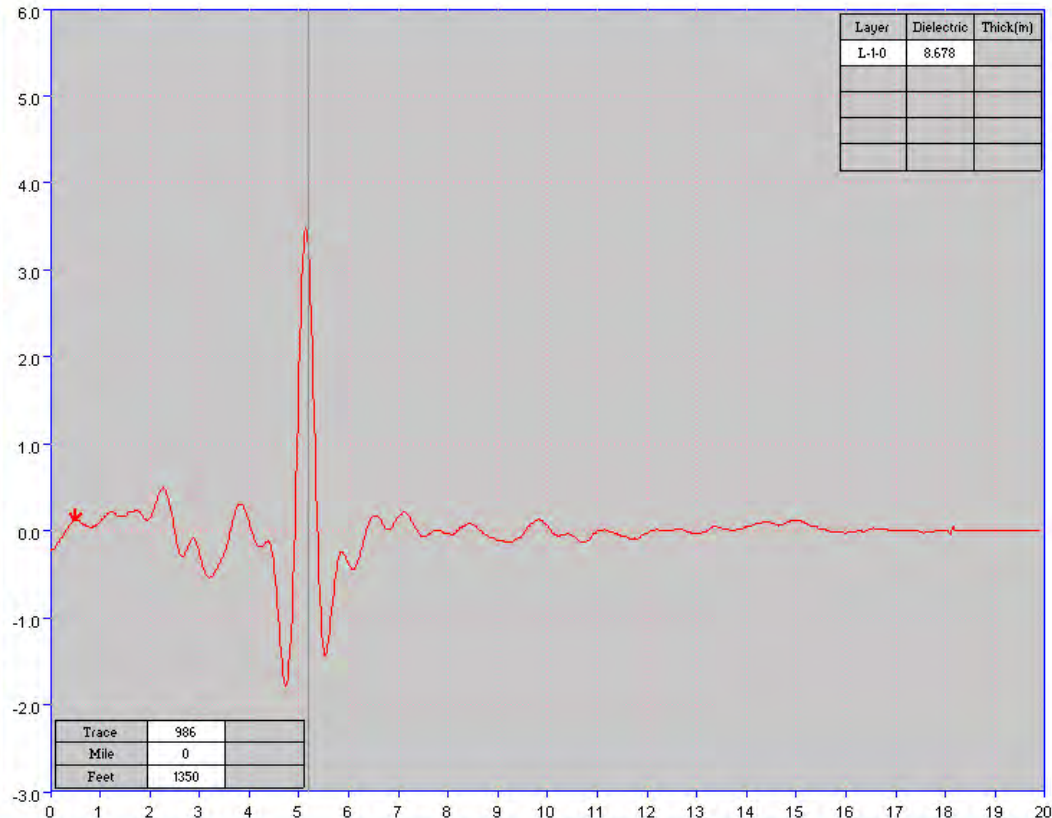
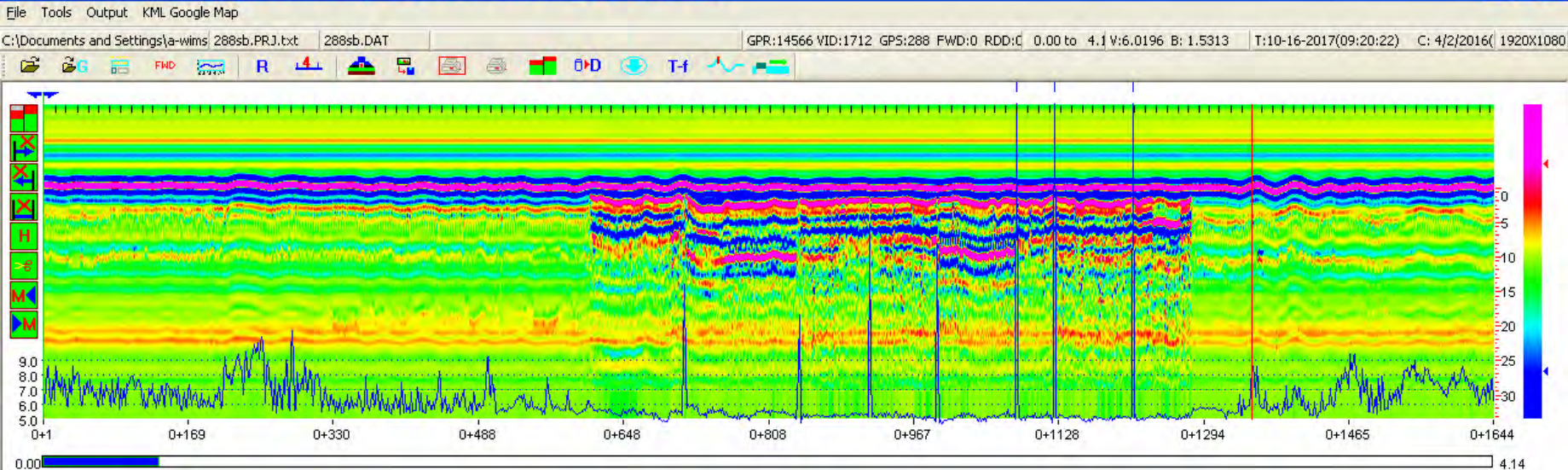


# **SH 288 Southbound Ground Penetrating Radar Data October, 2017**

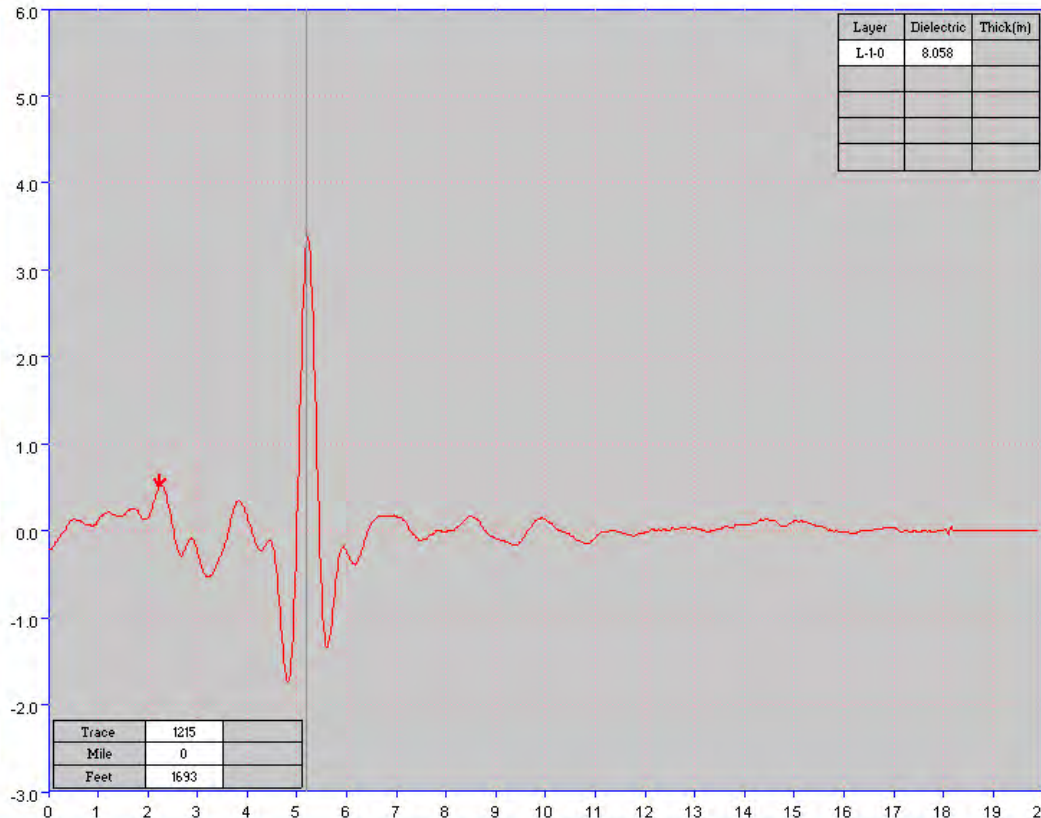
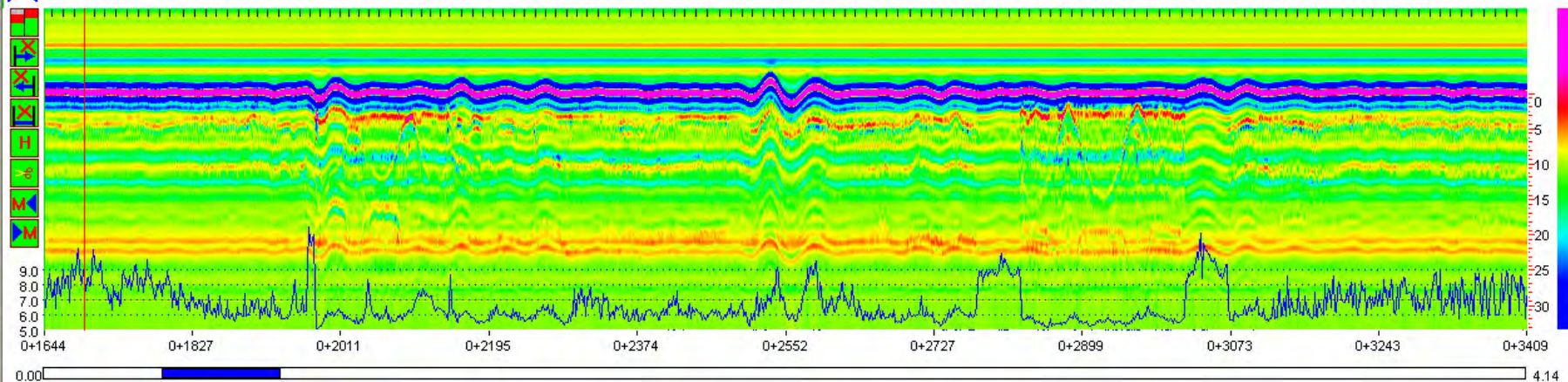




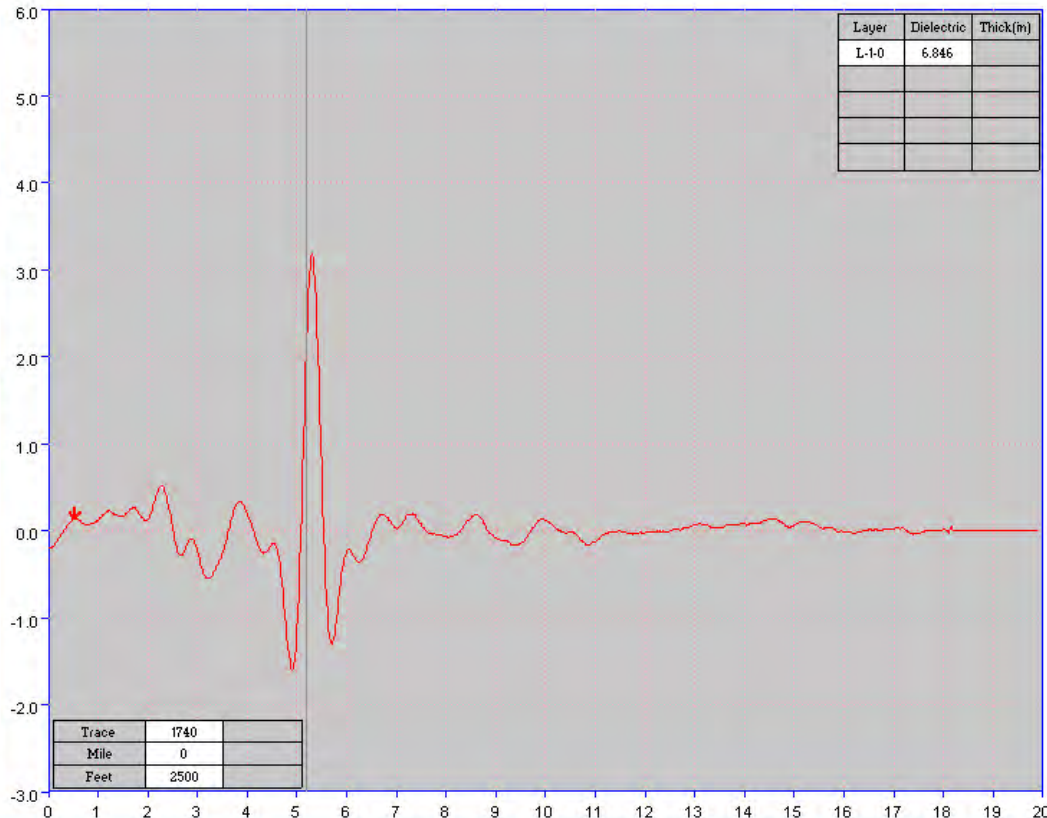
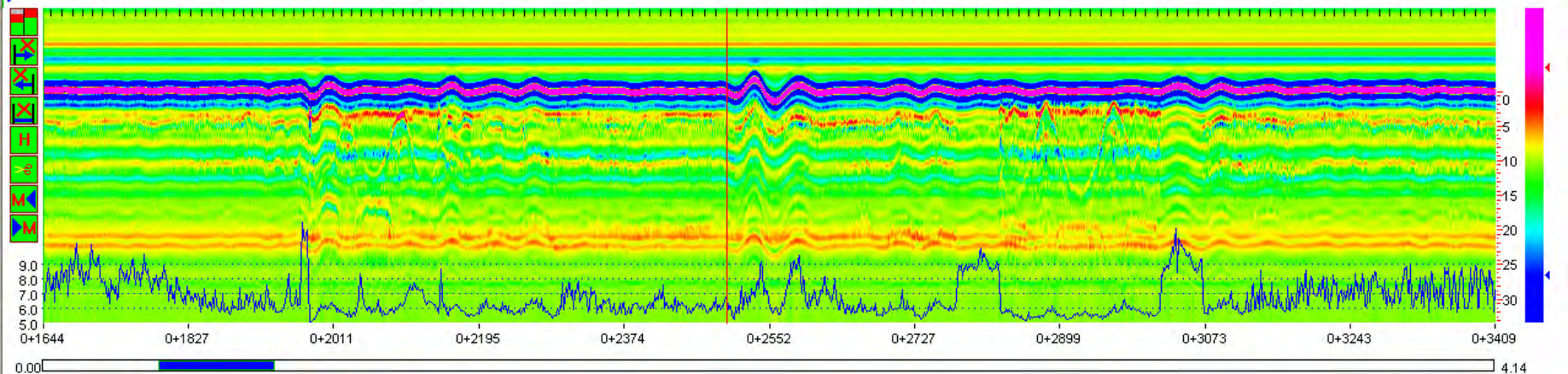
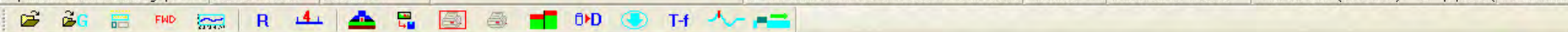




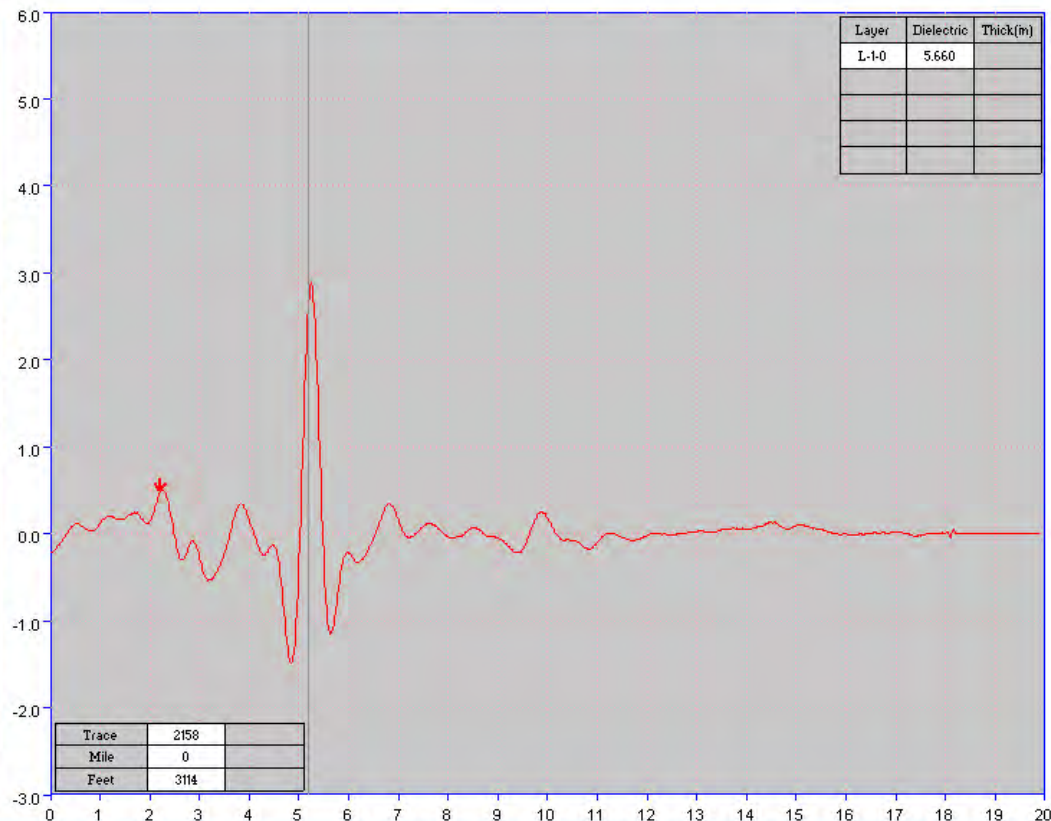
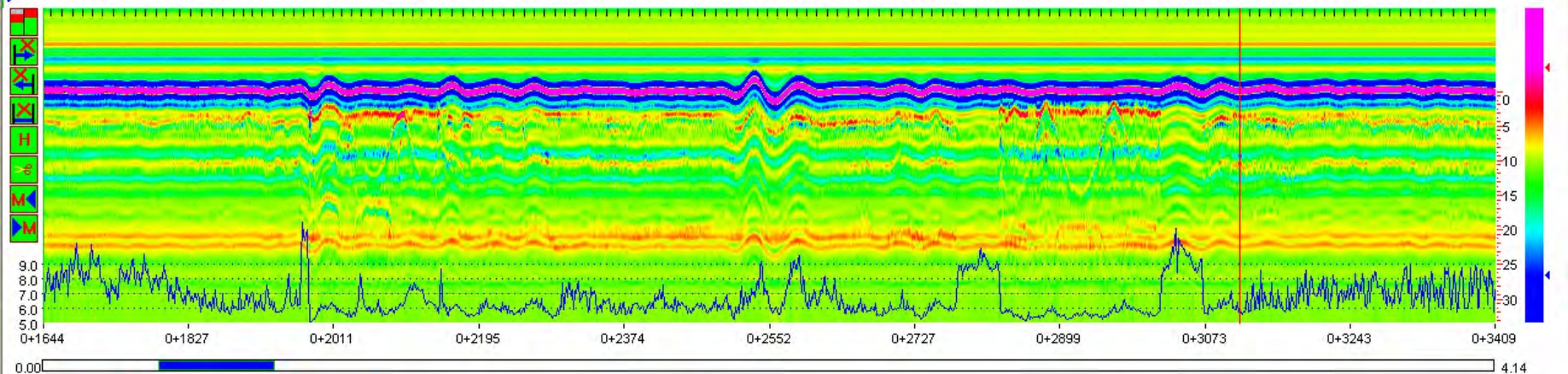




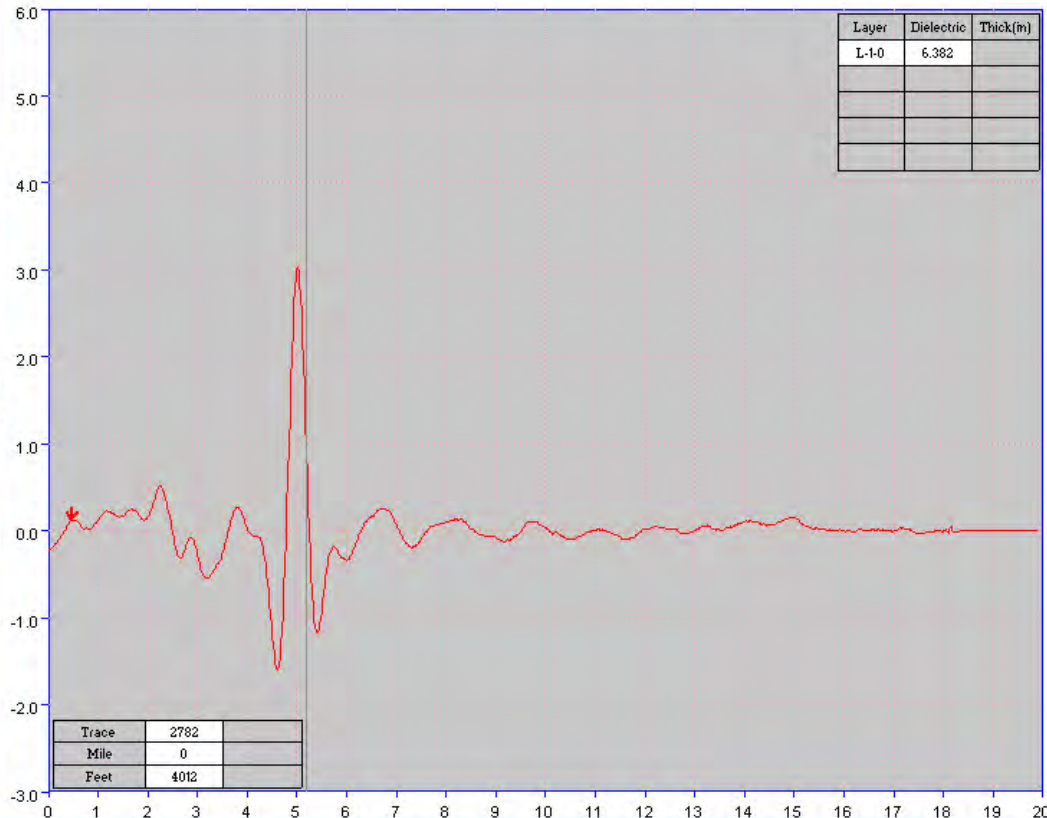
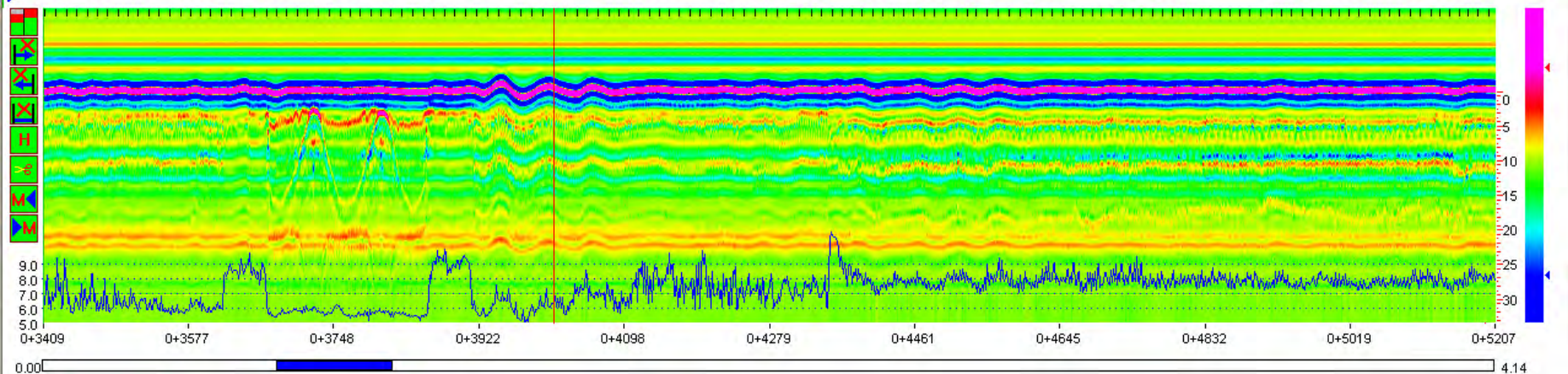




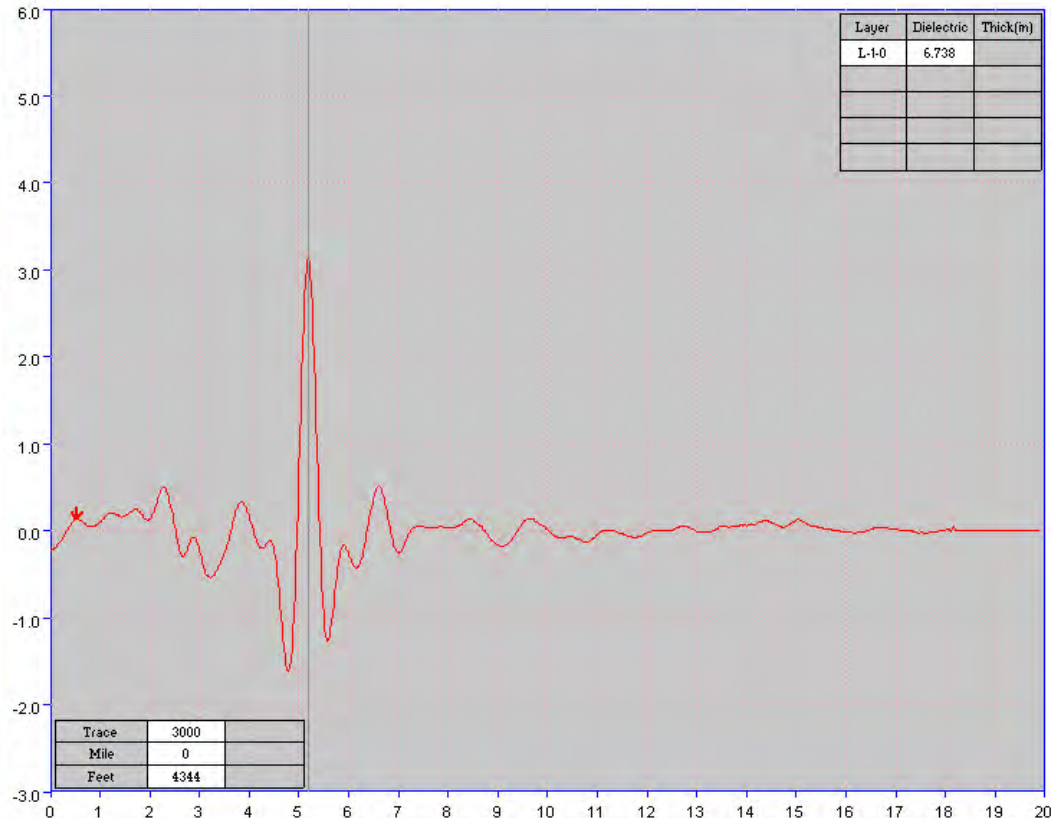
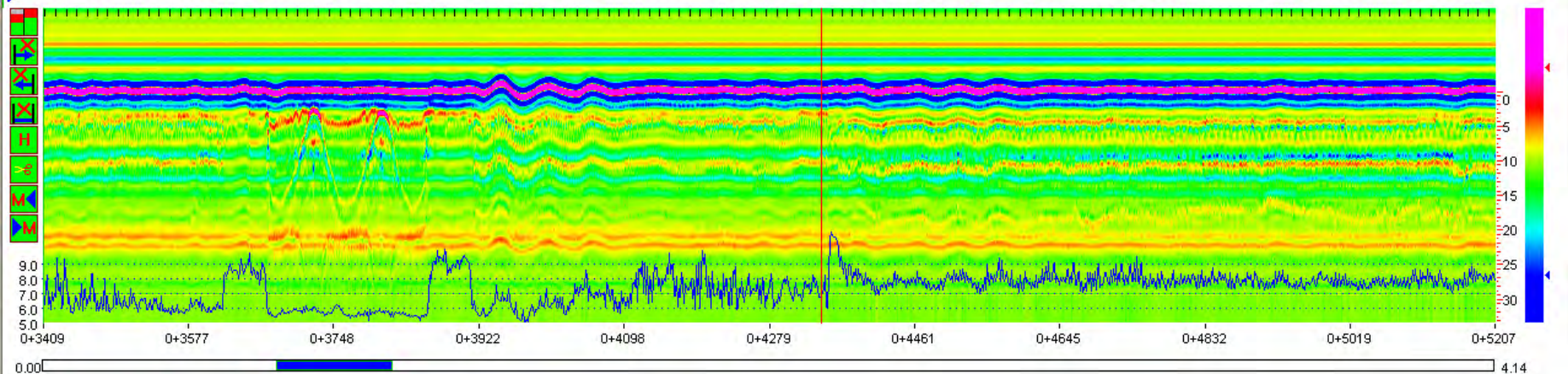




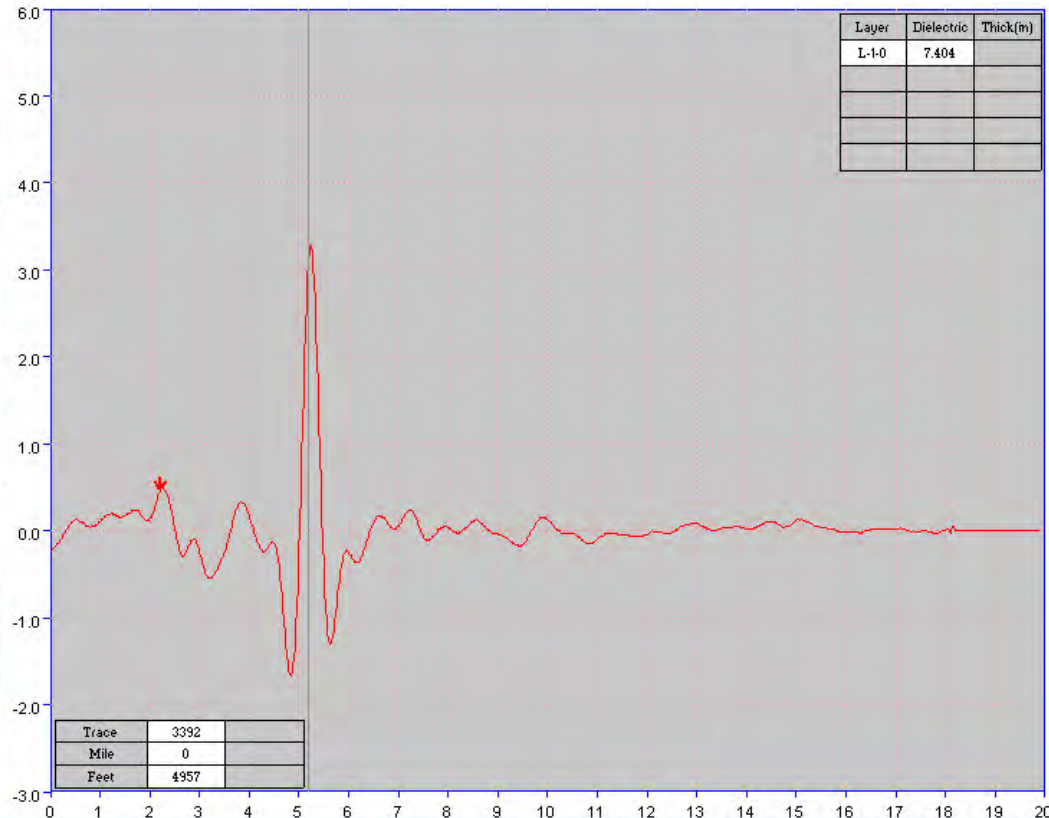
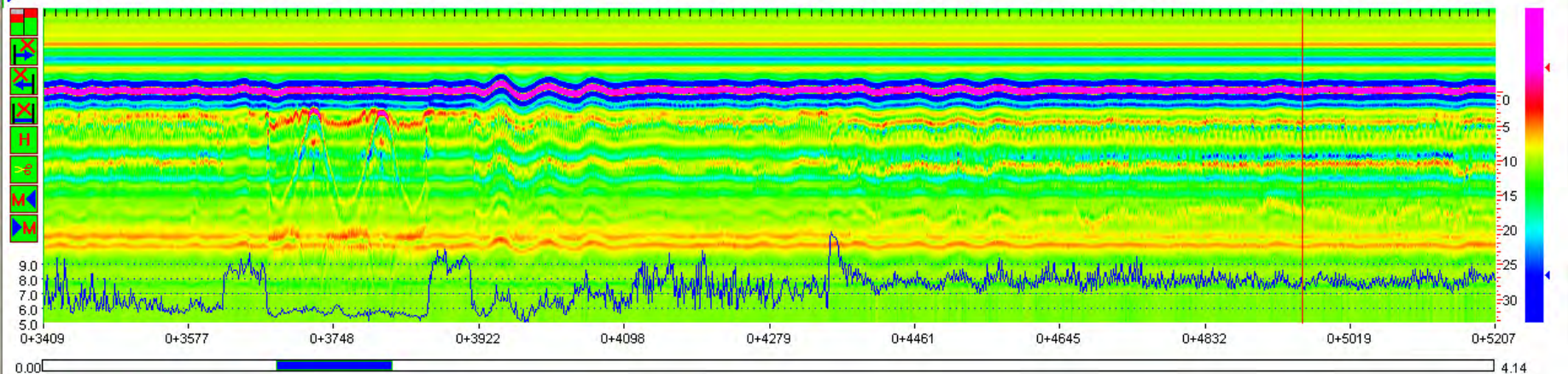




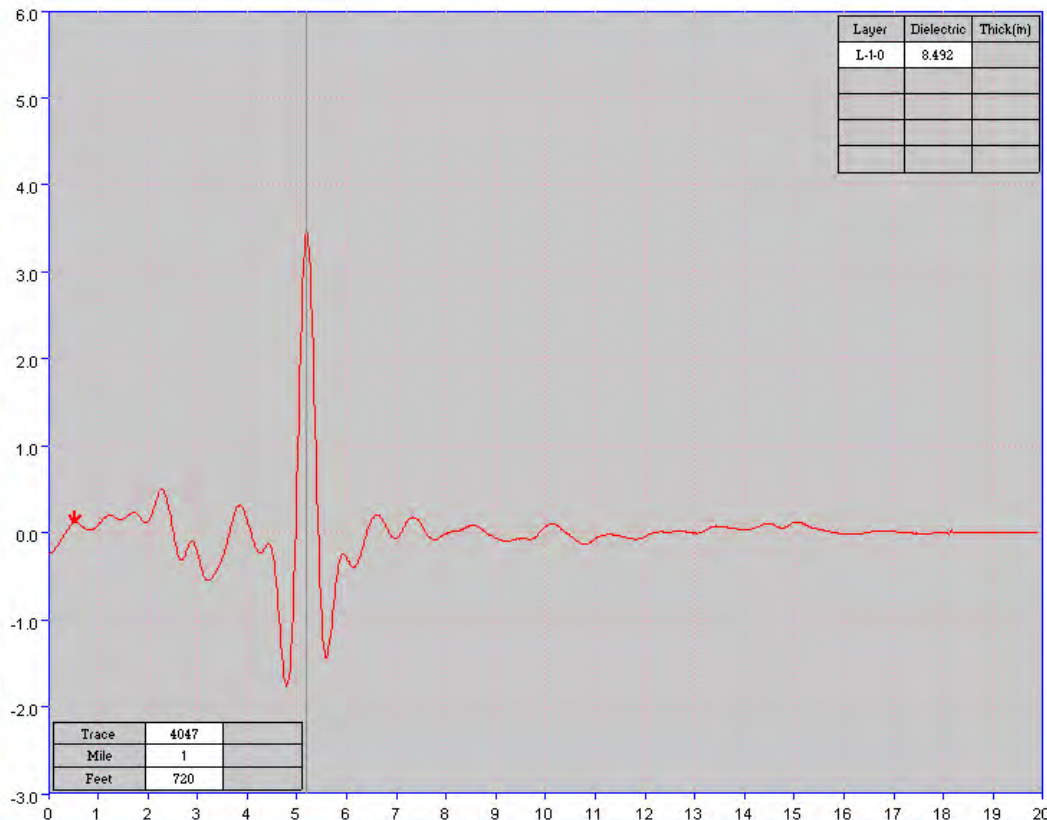
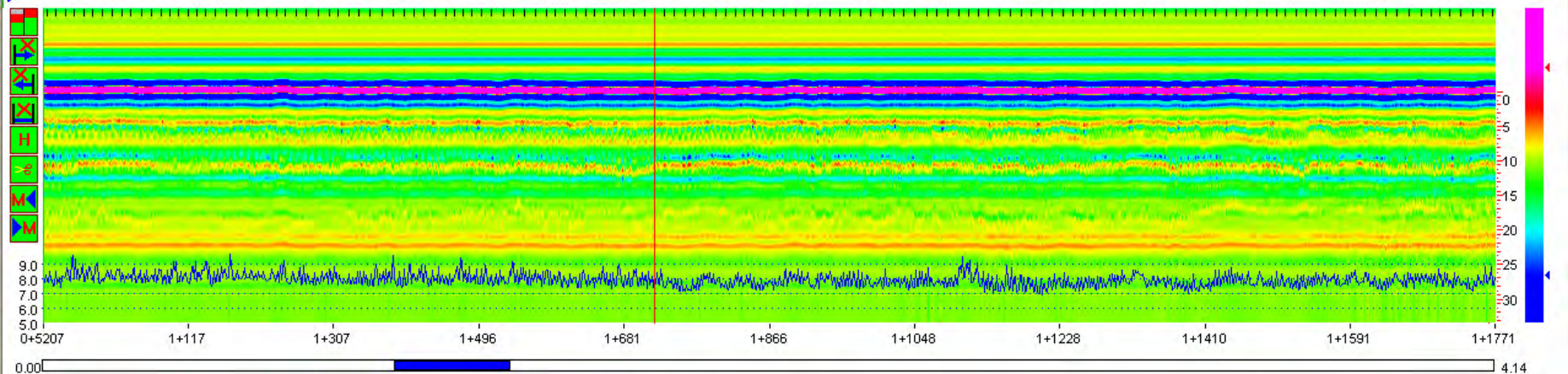




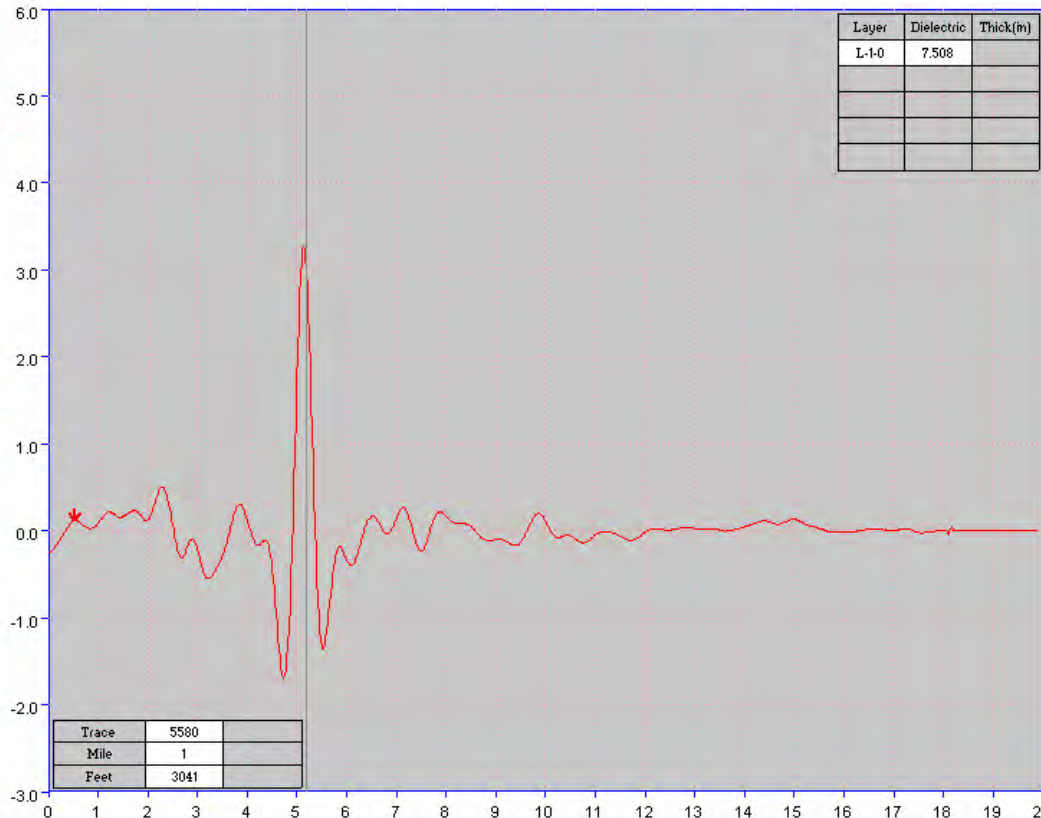
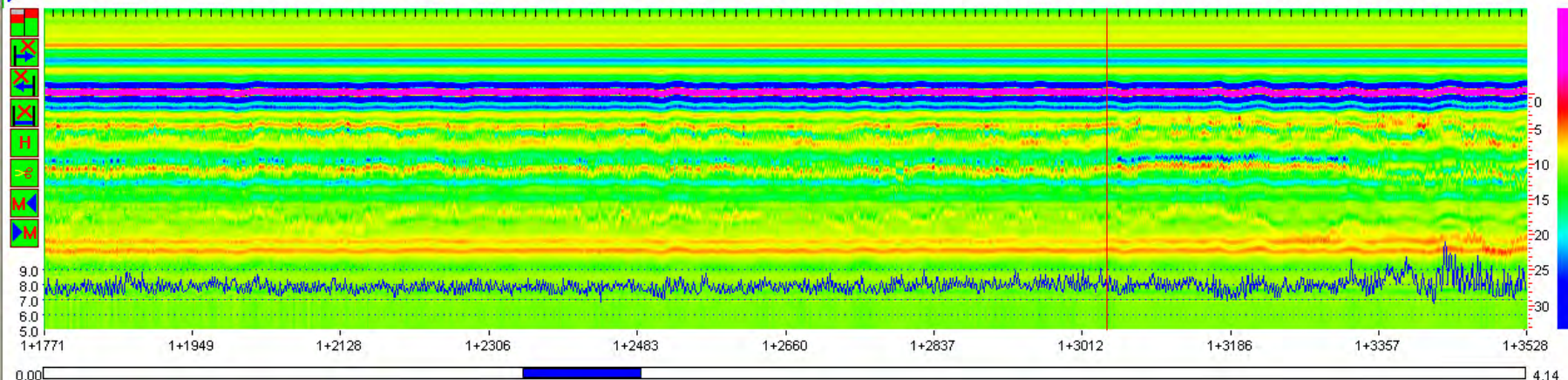




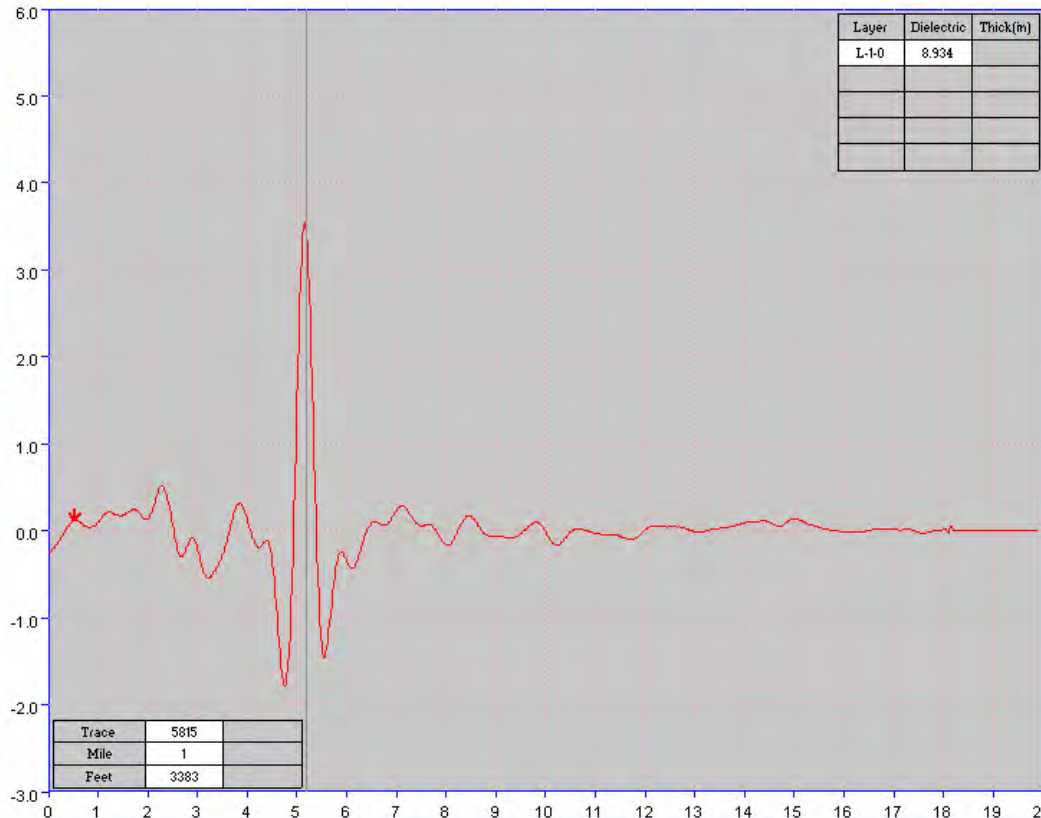
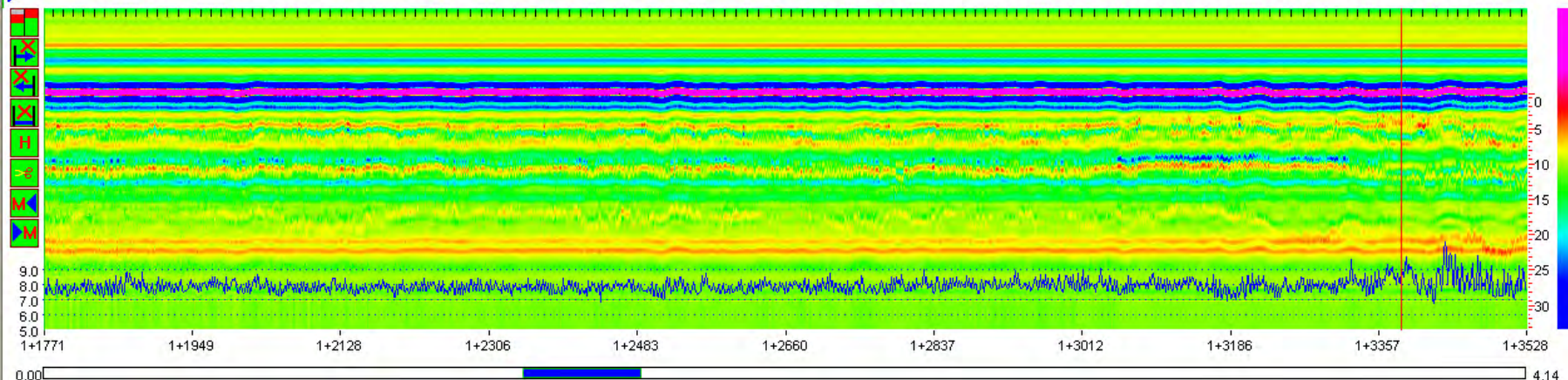




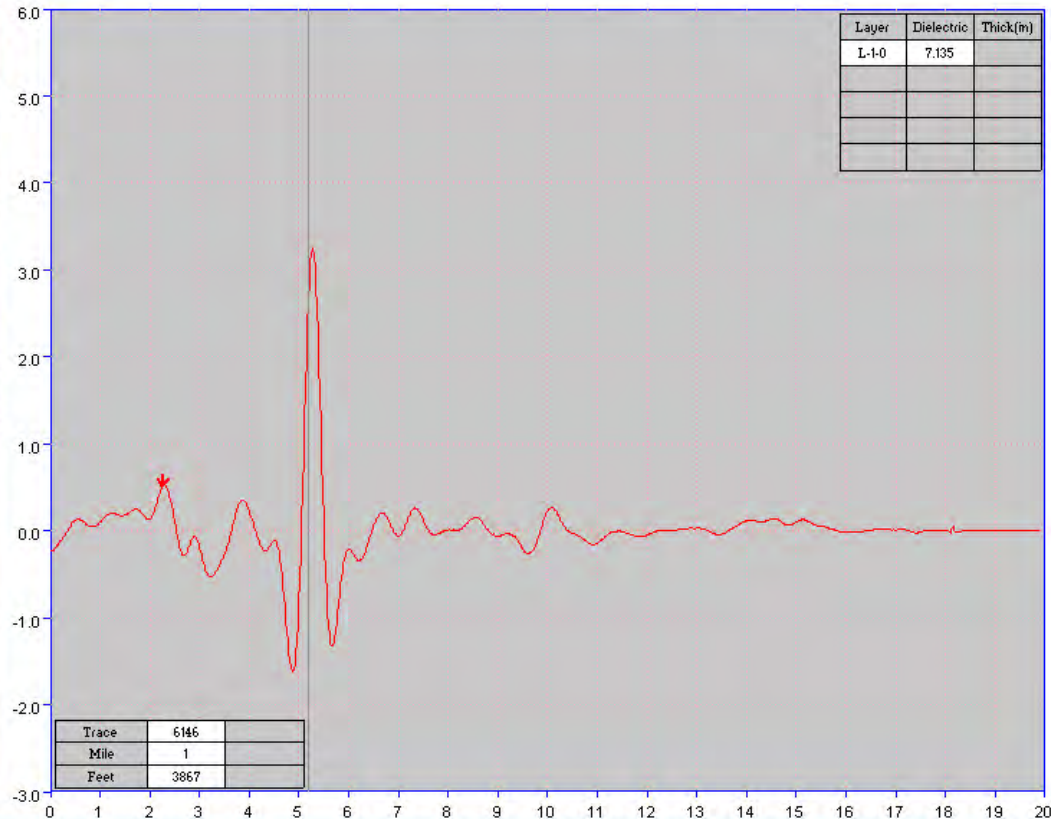
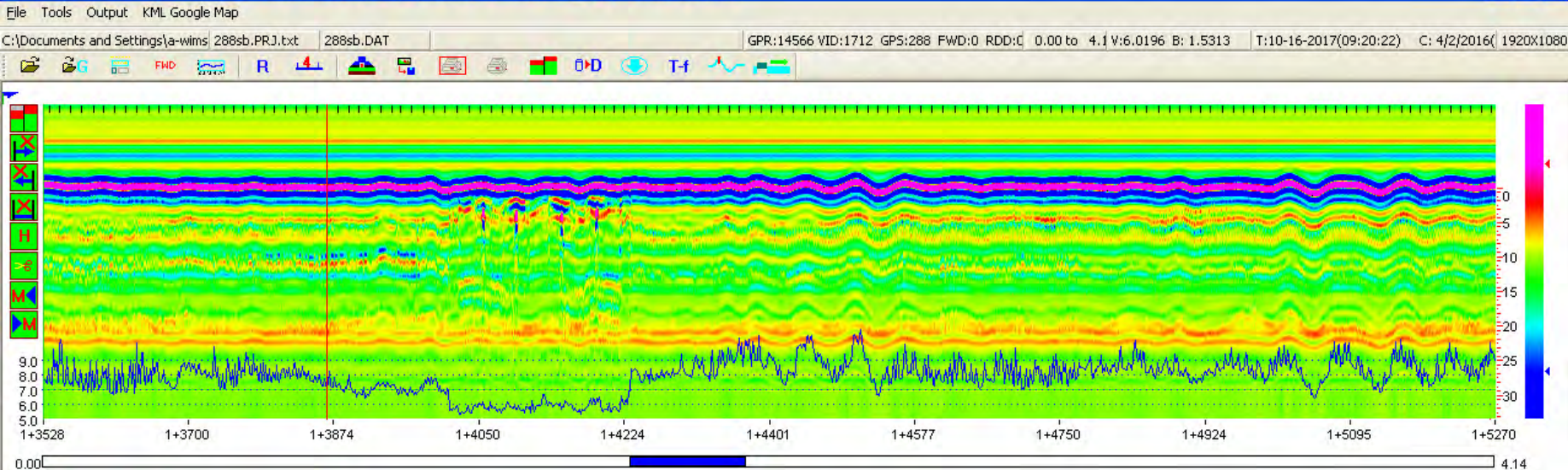




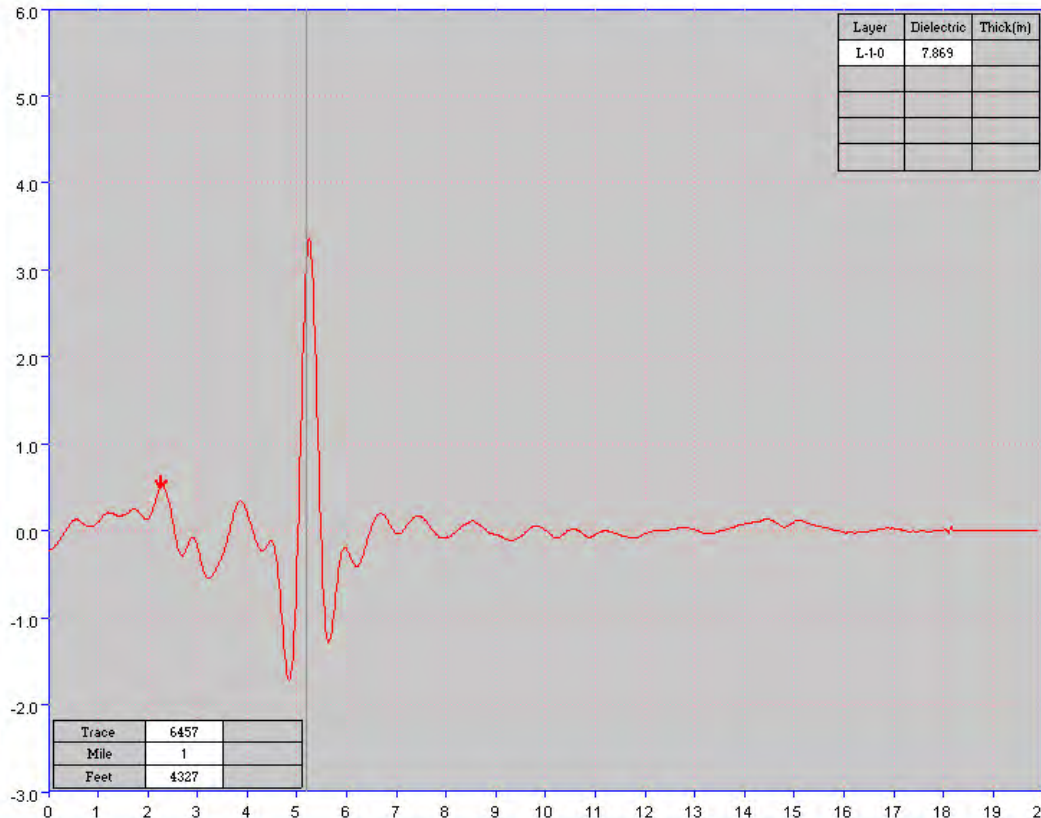
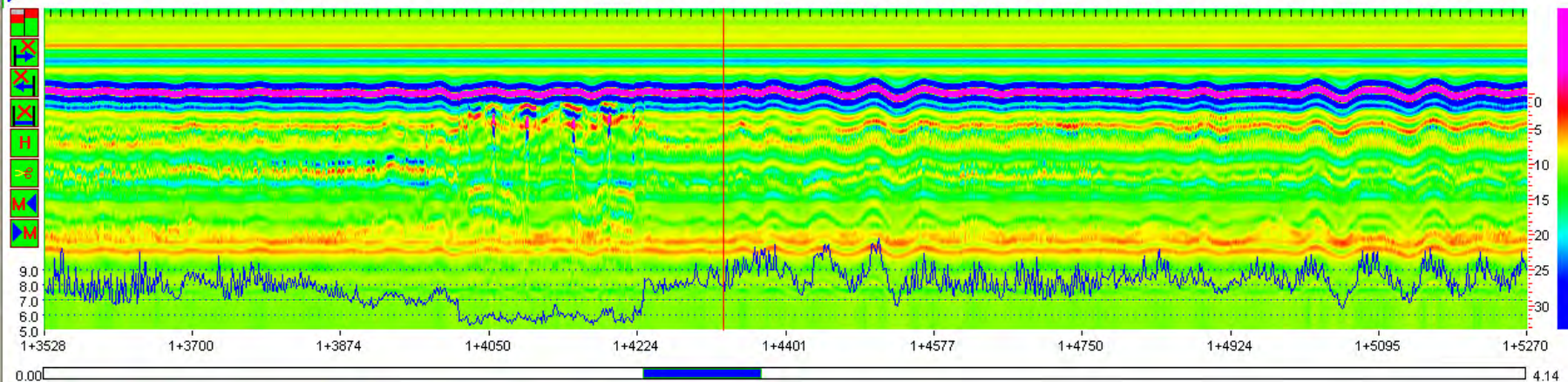








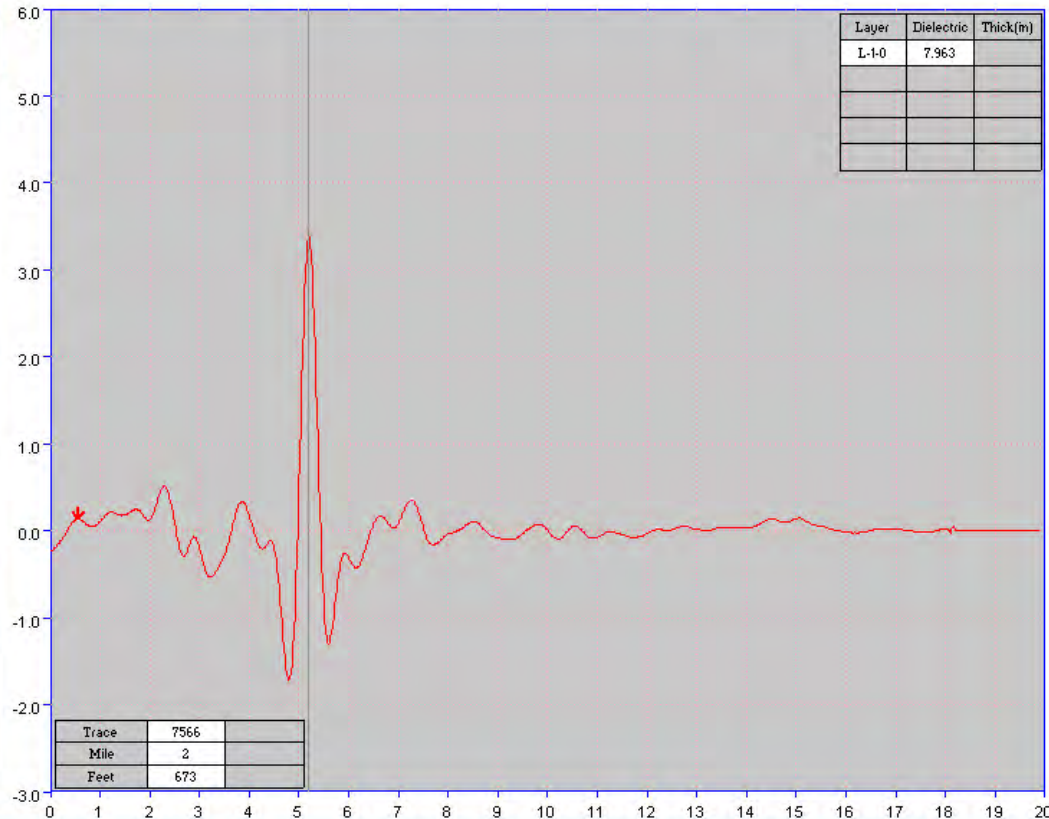
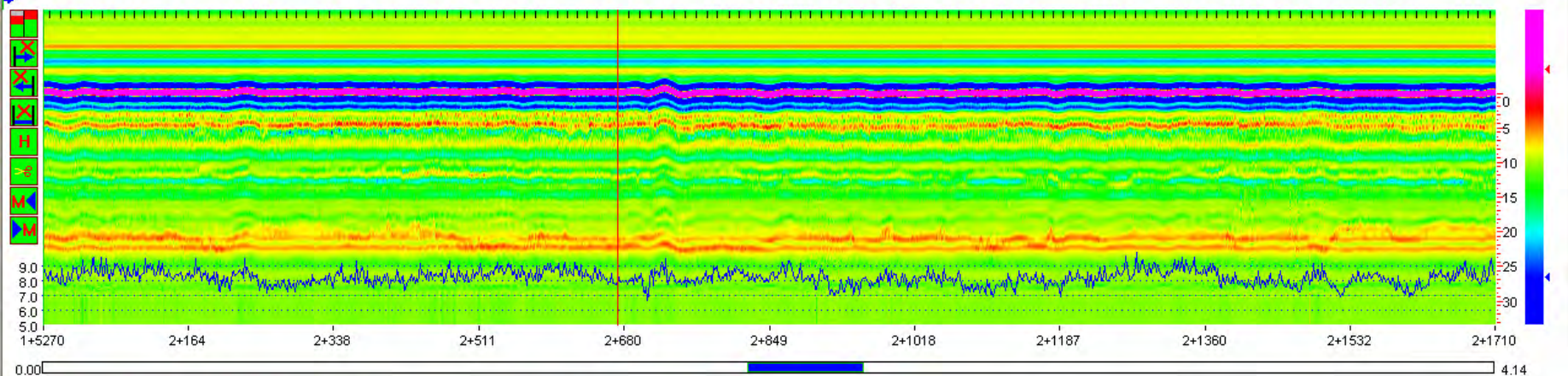




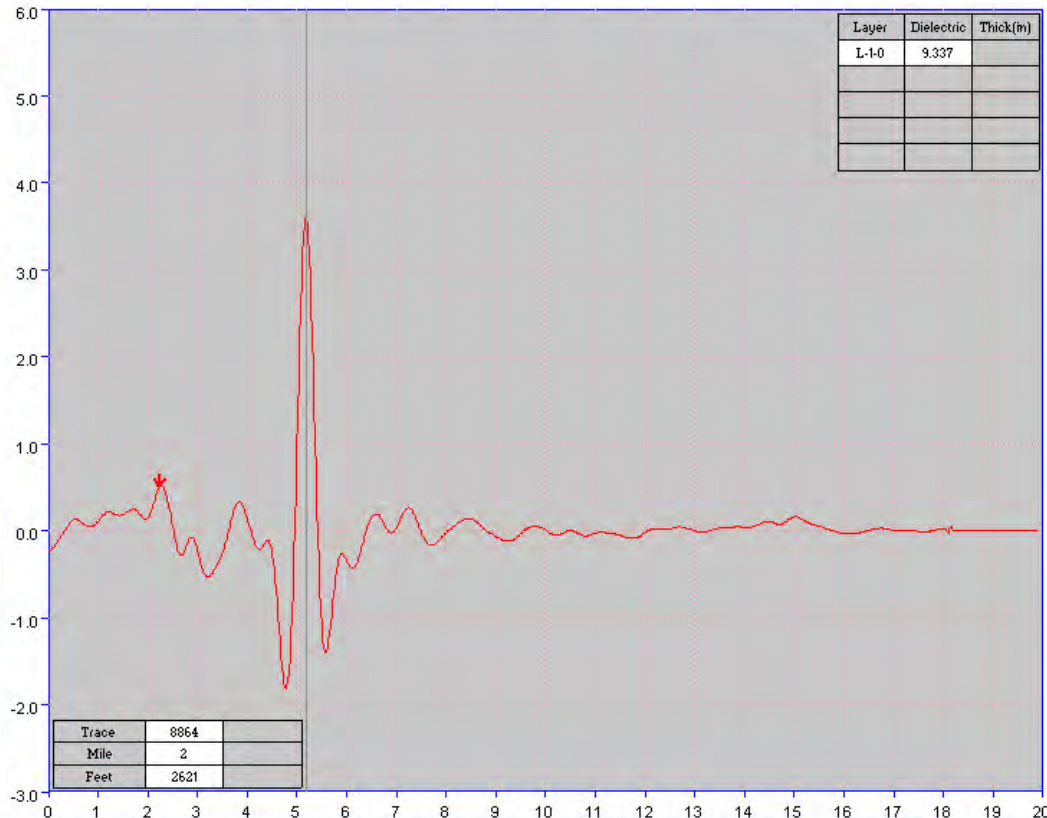
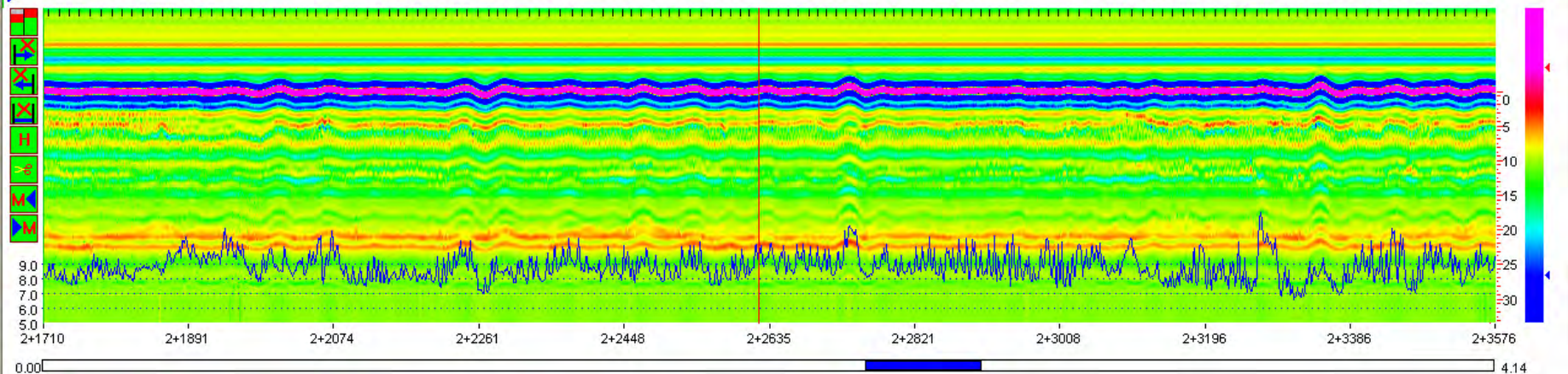




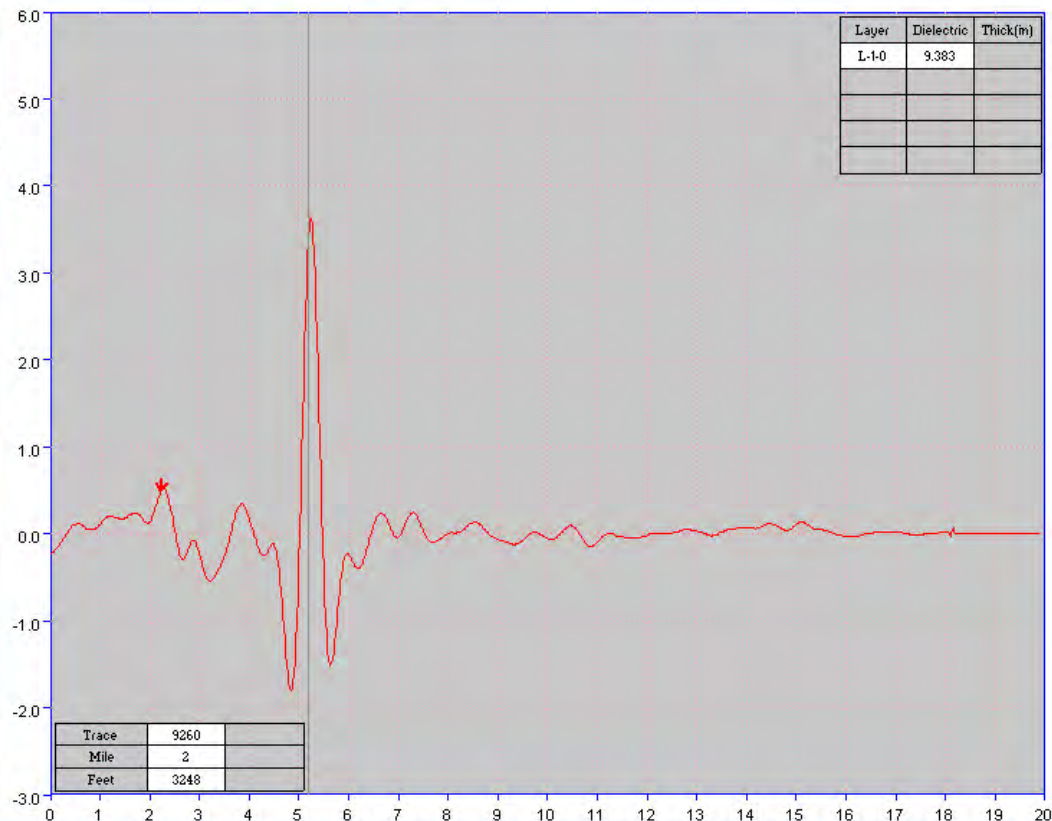
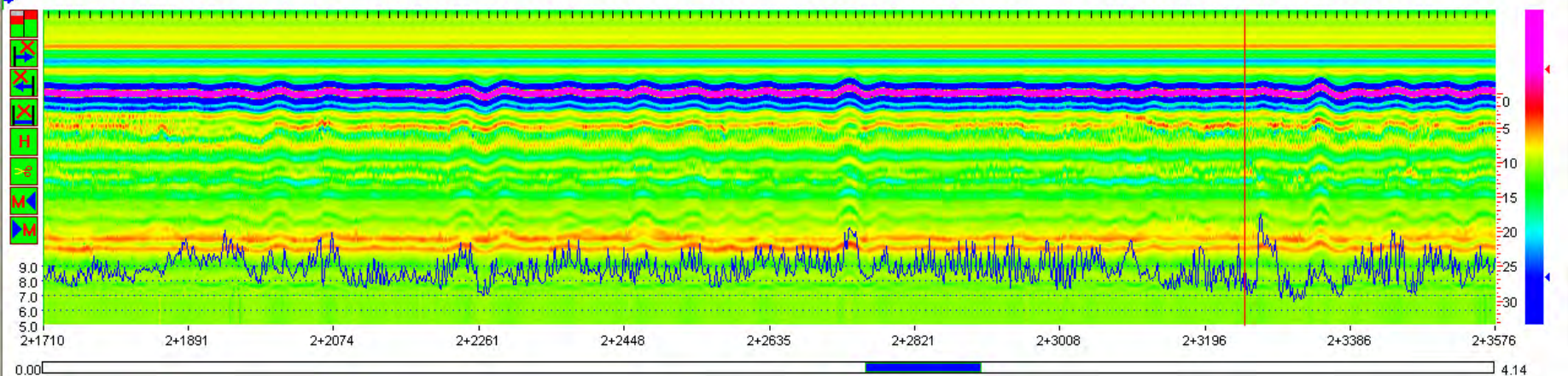




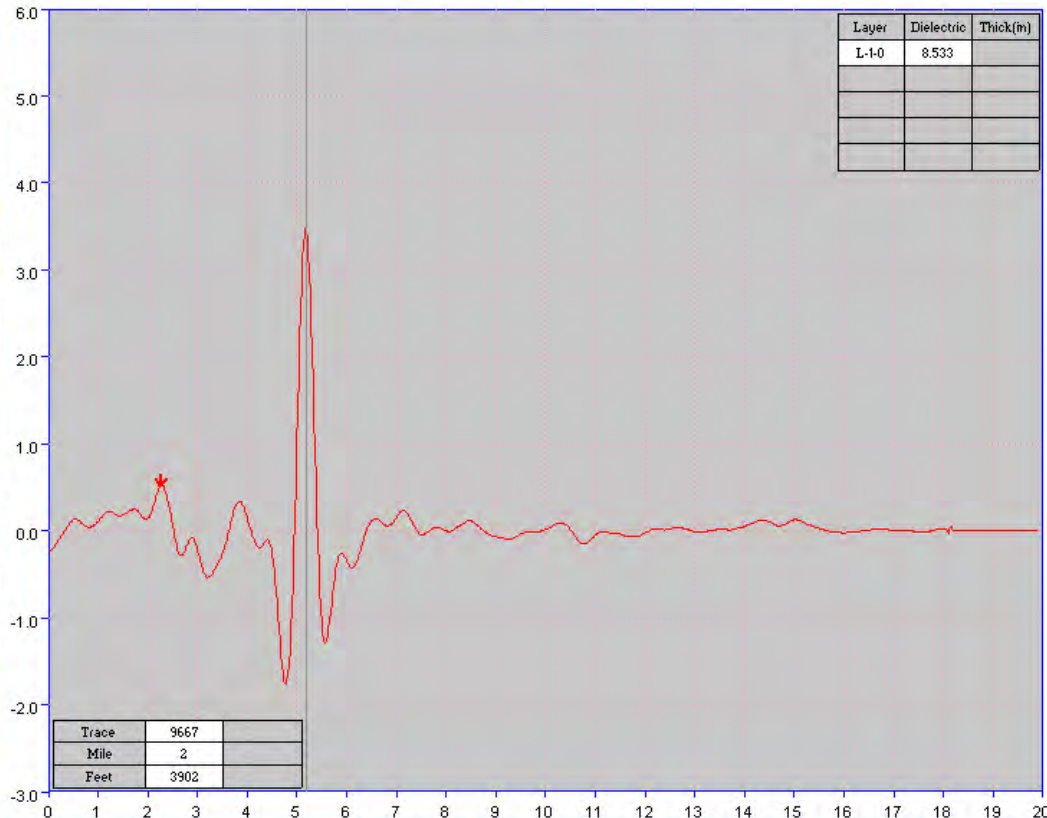
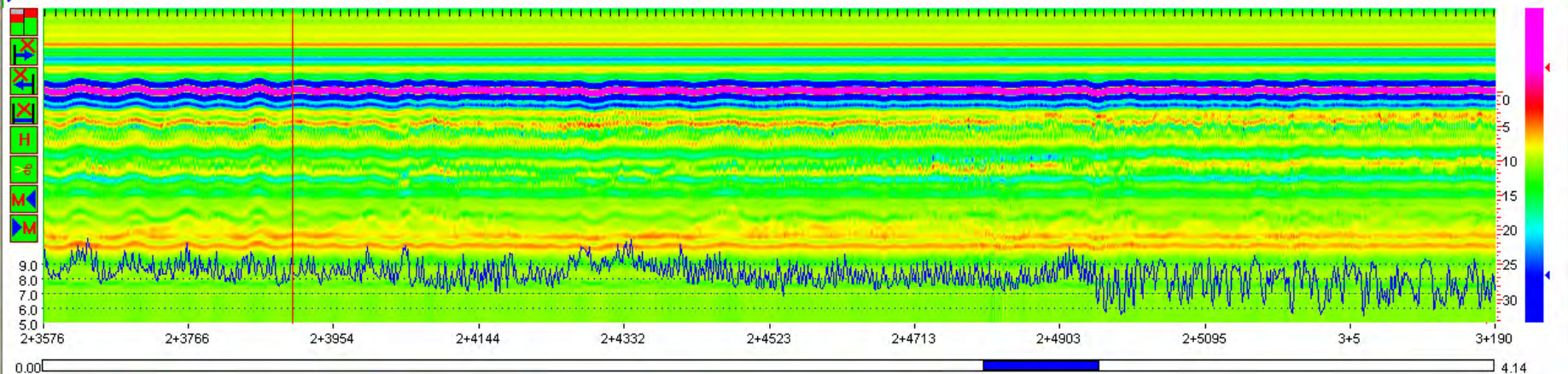




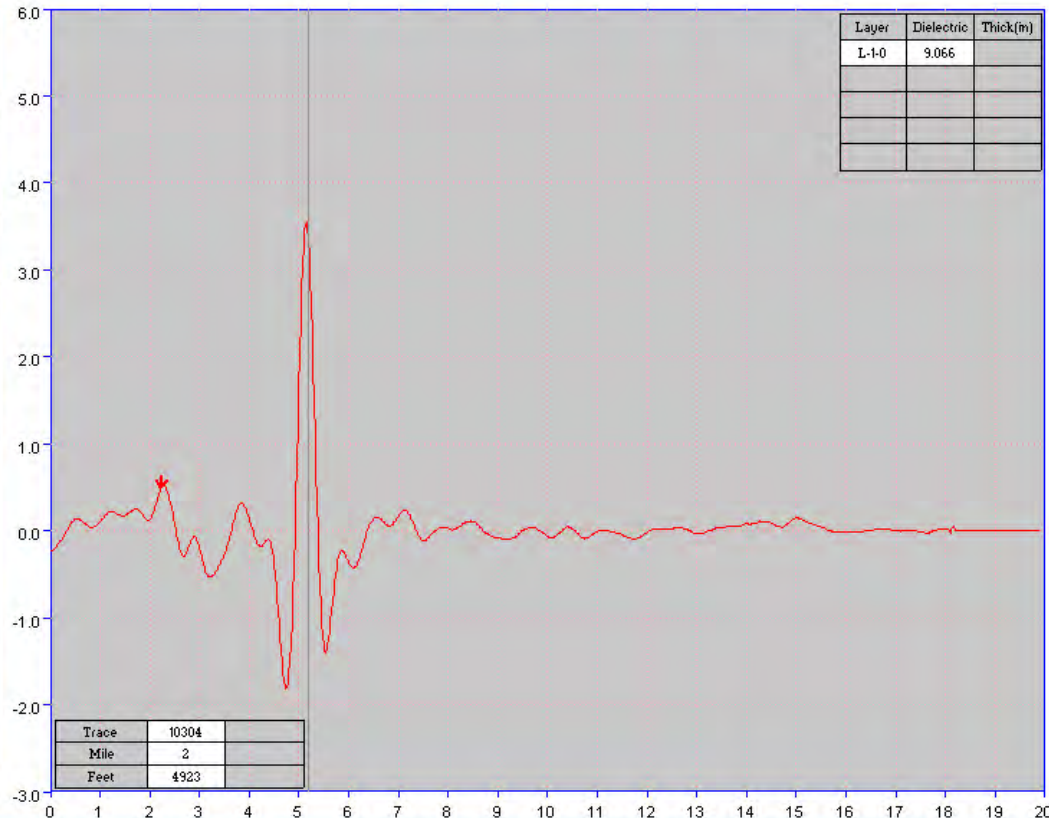
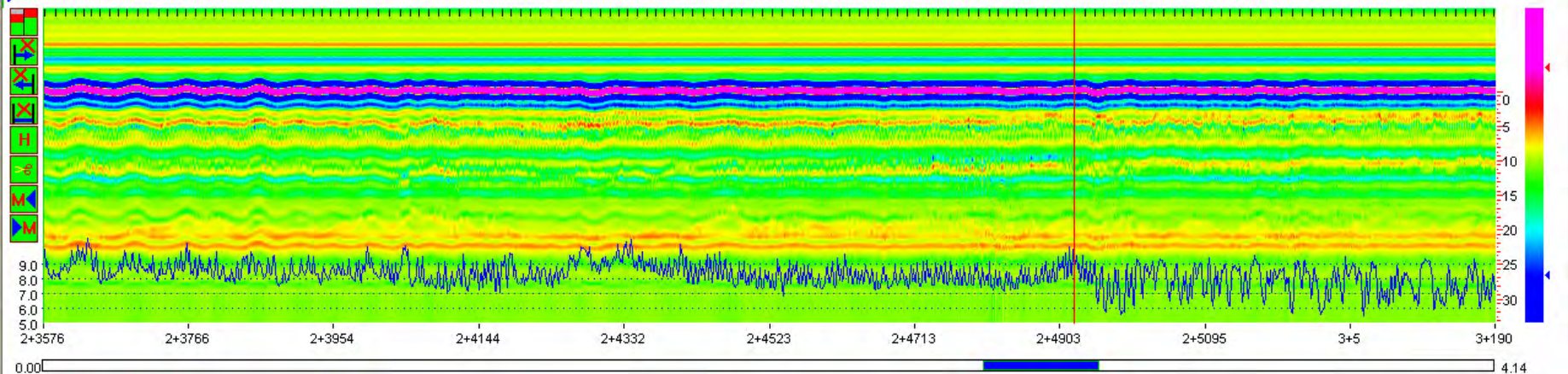




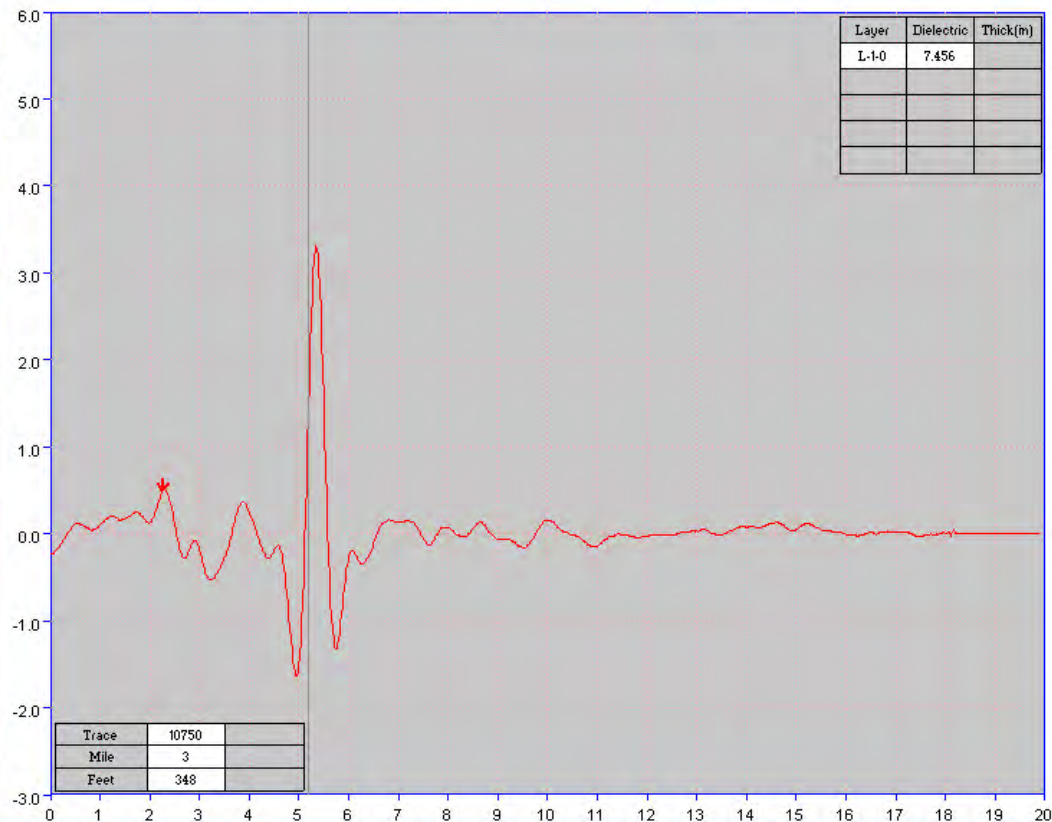
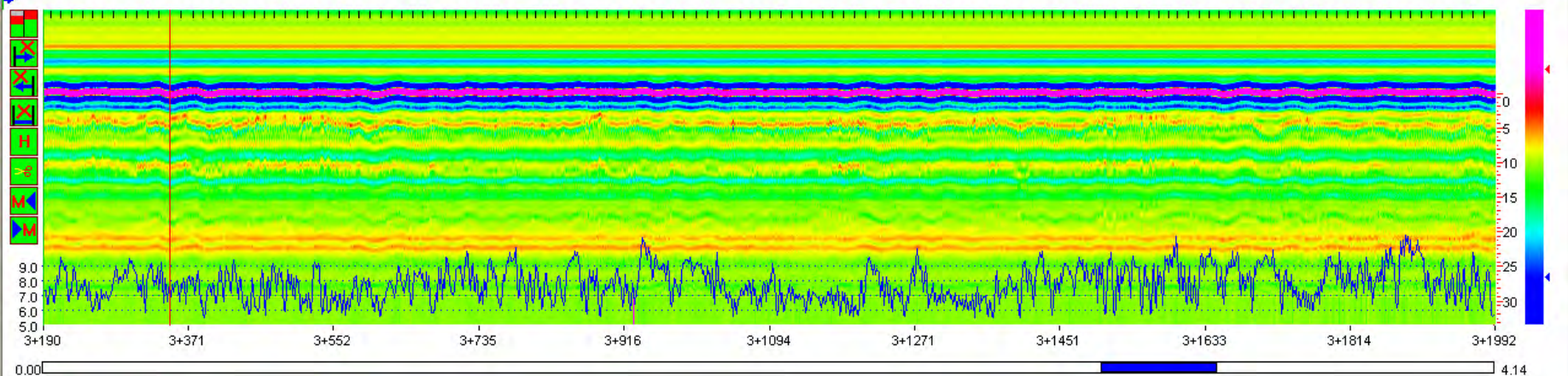




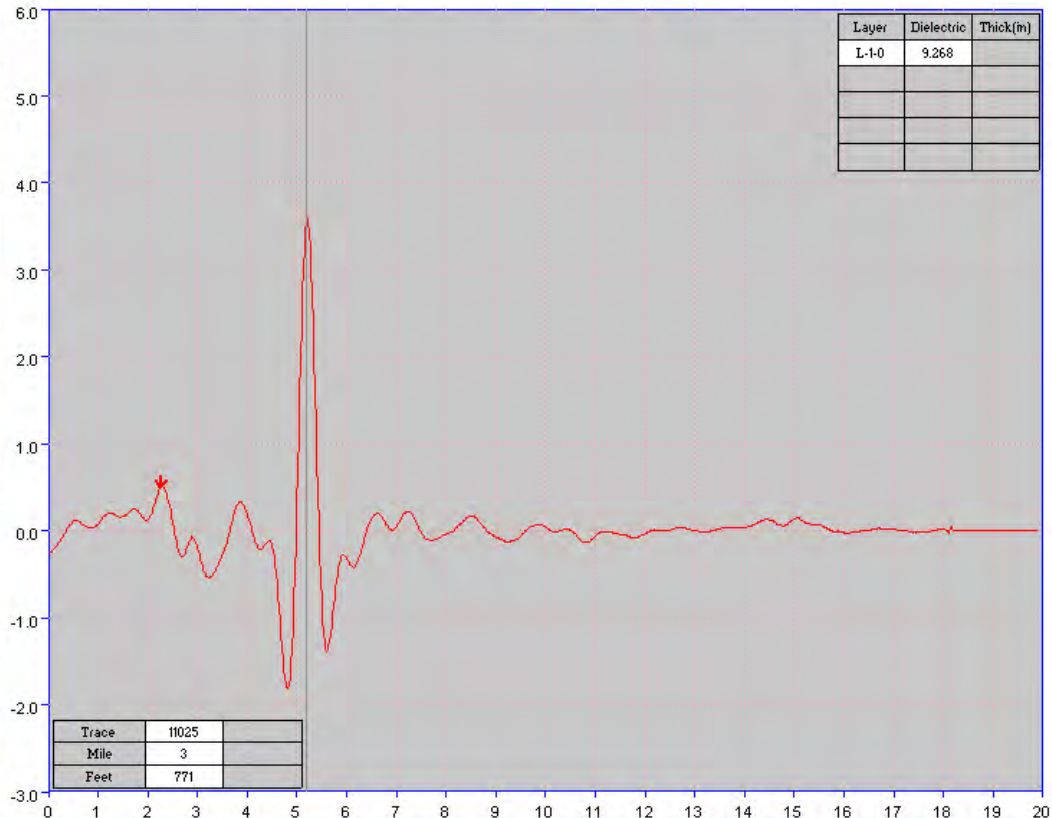
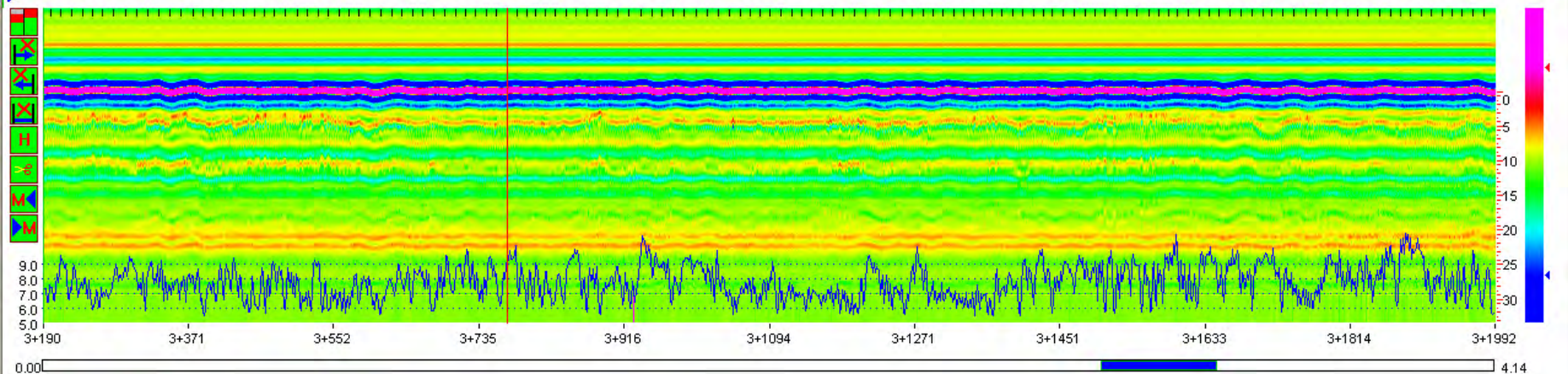




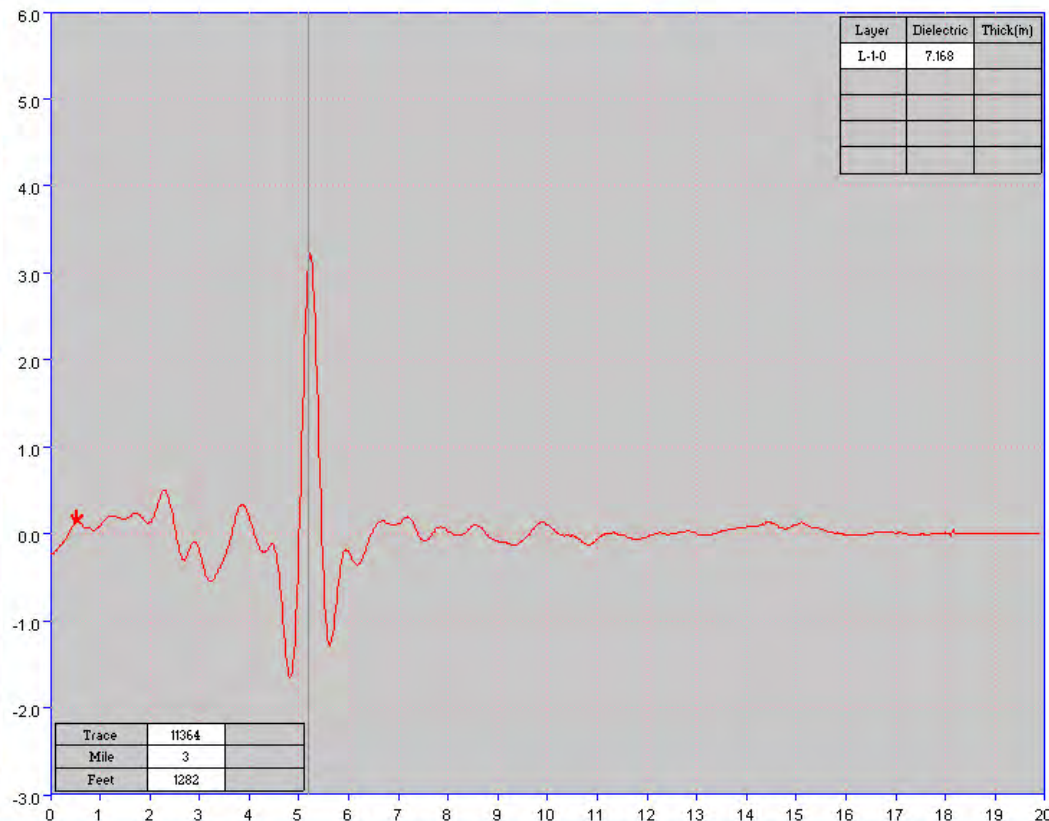
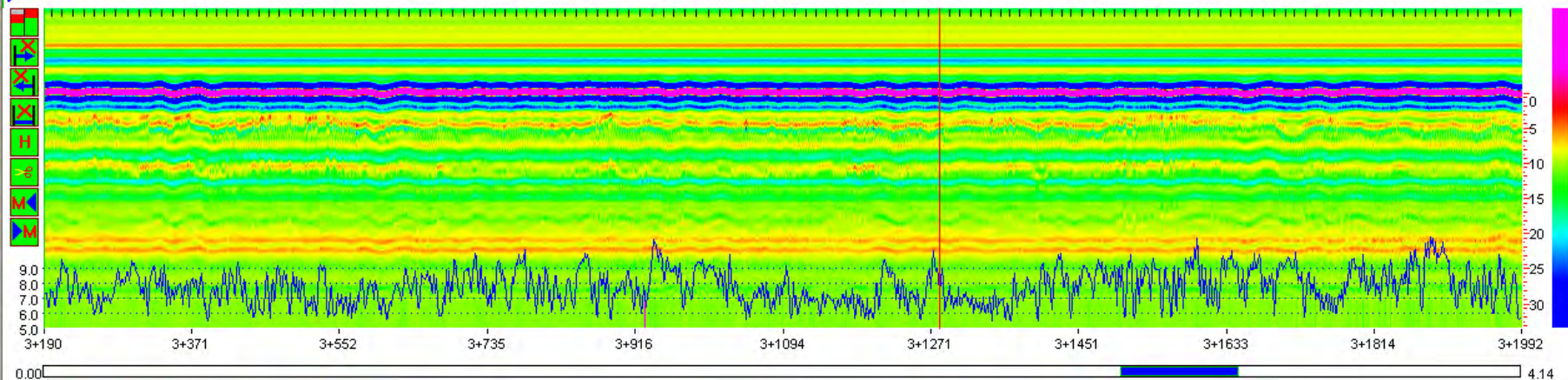




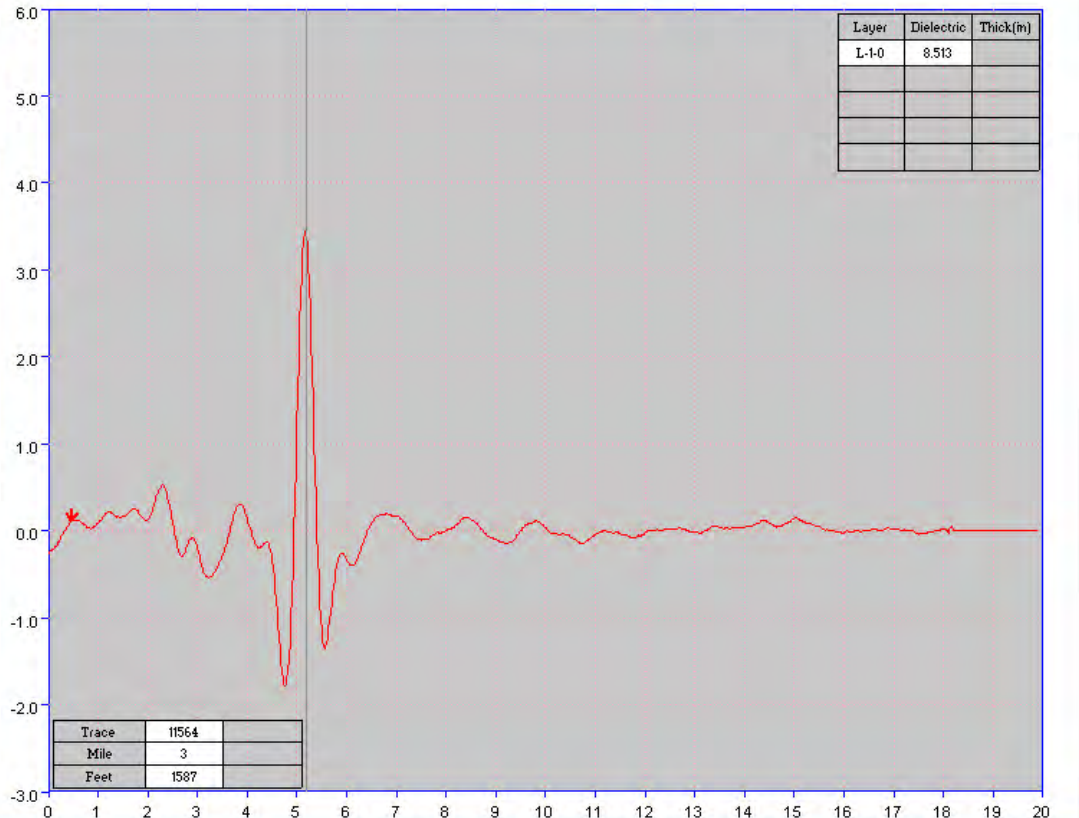
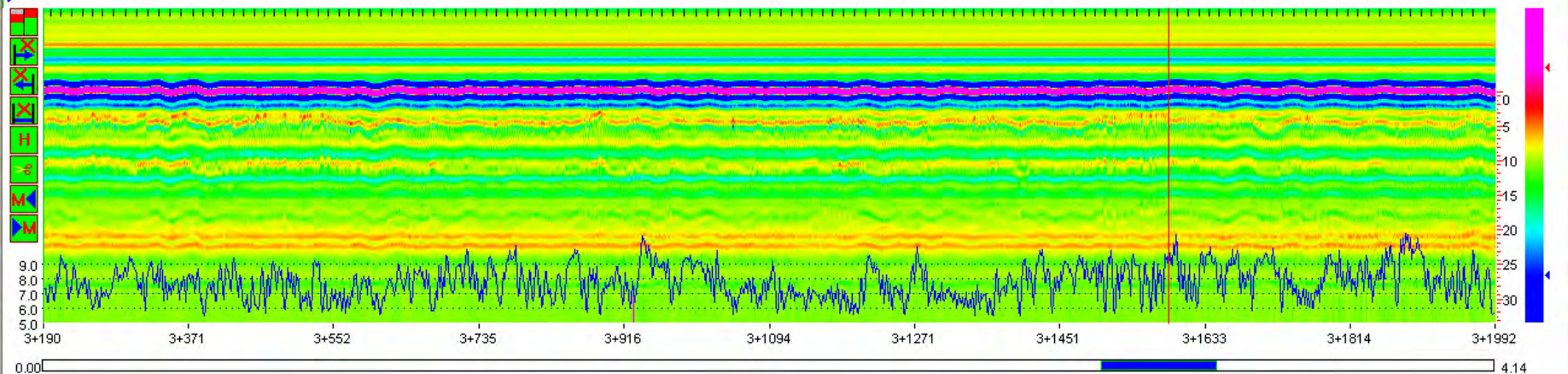




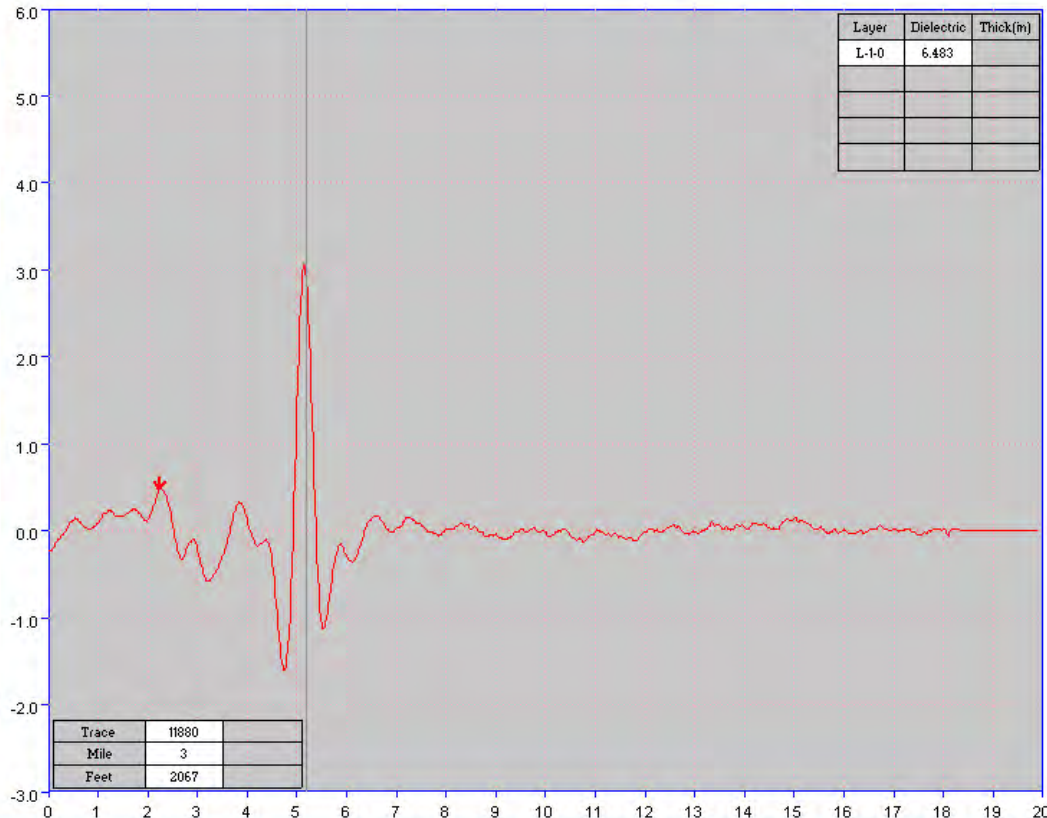
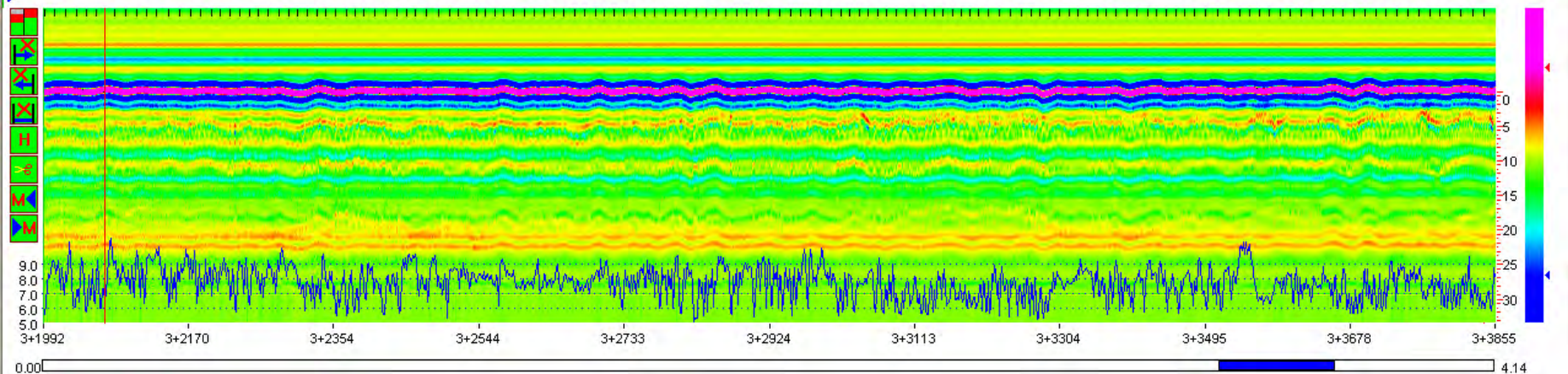




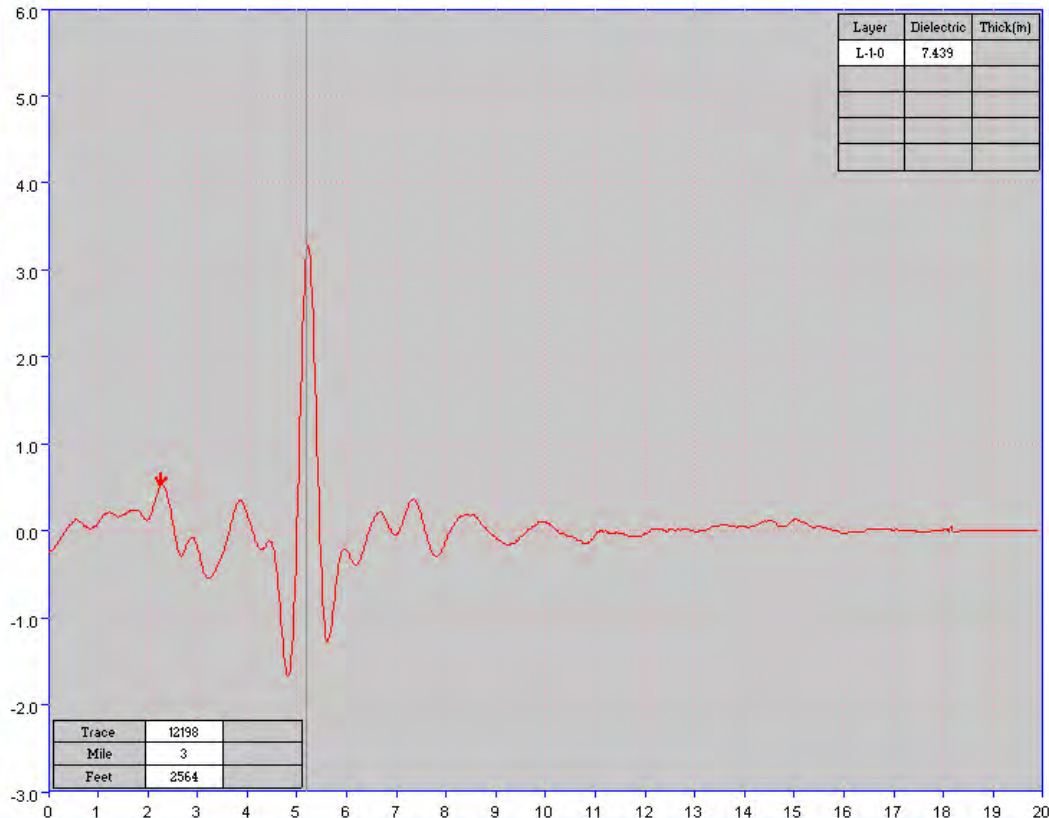
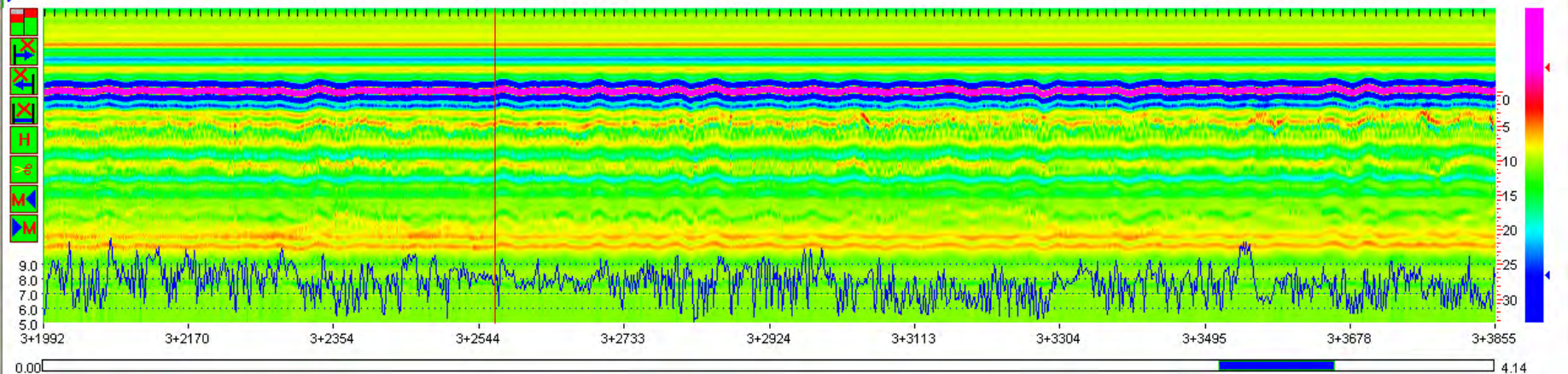




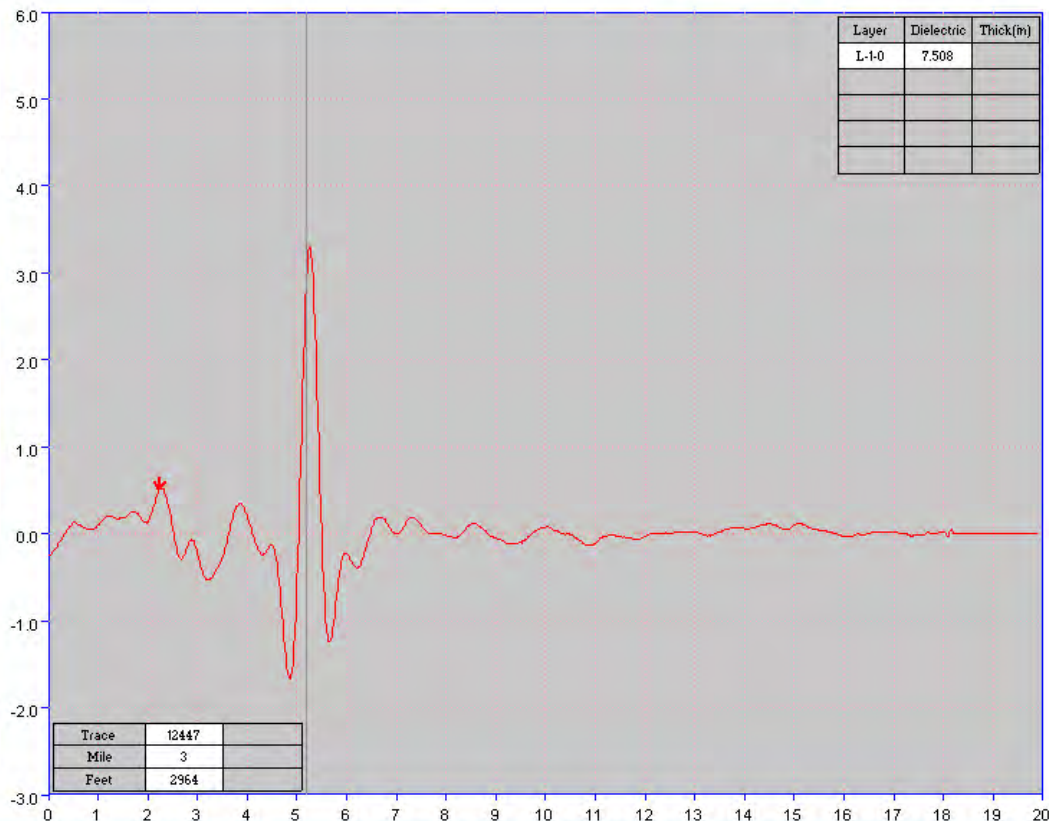
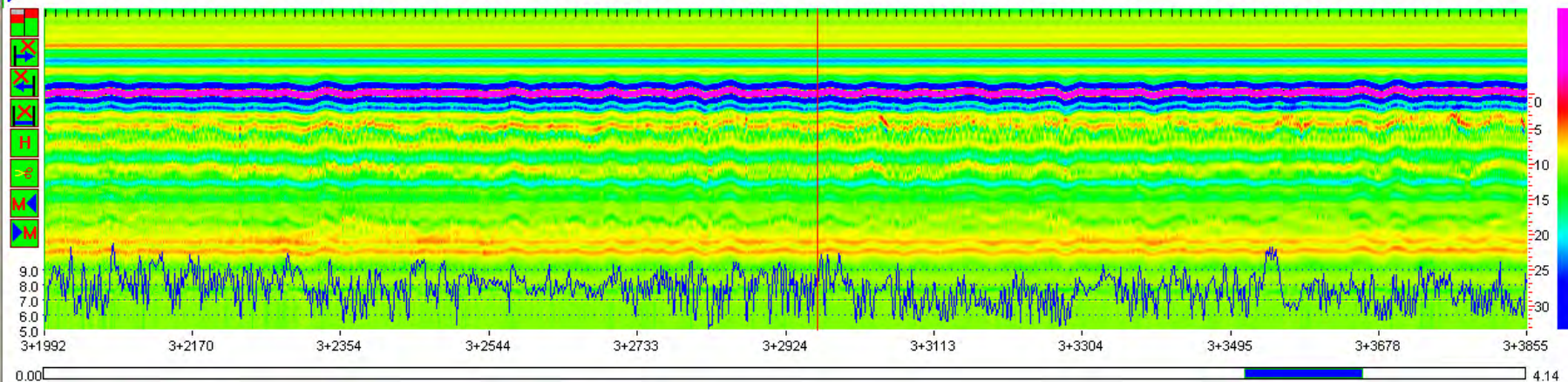




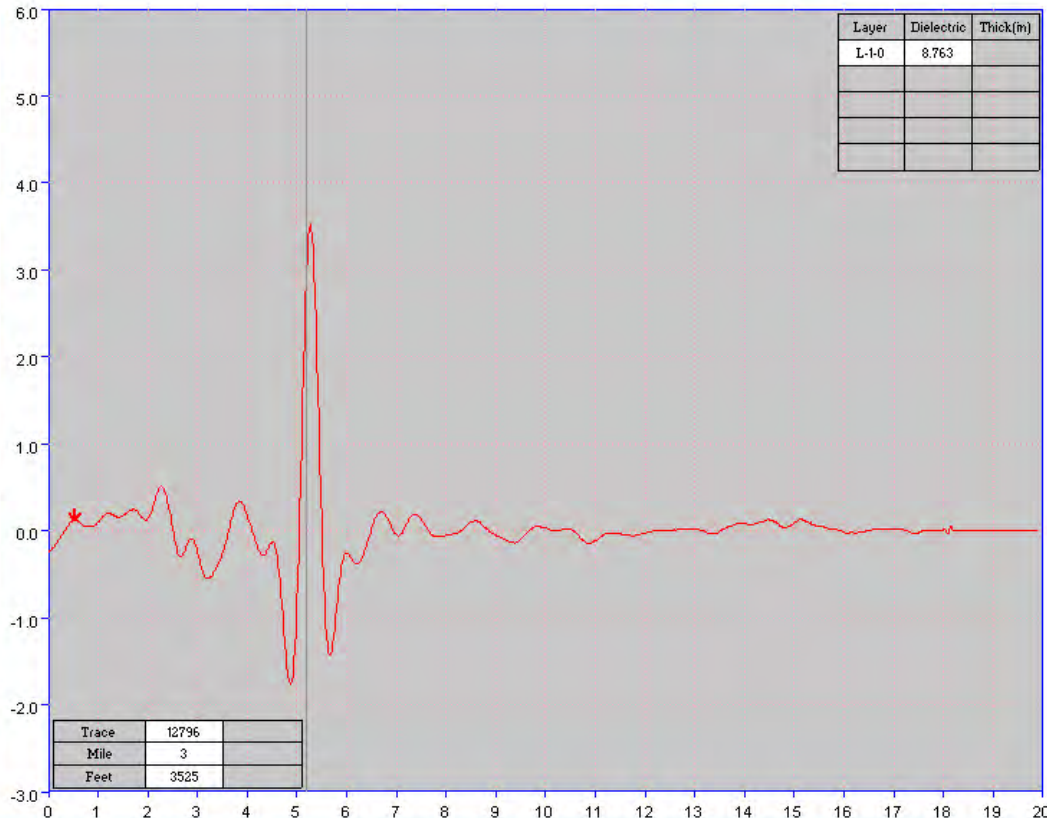
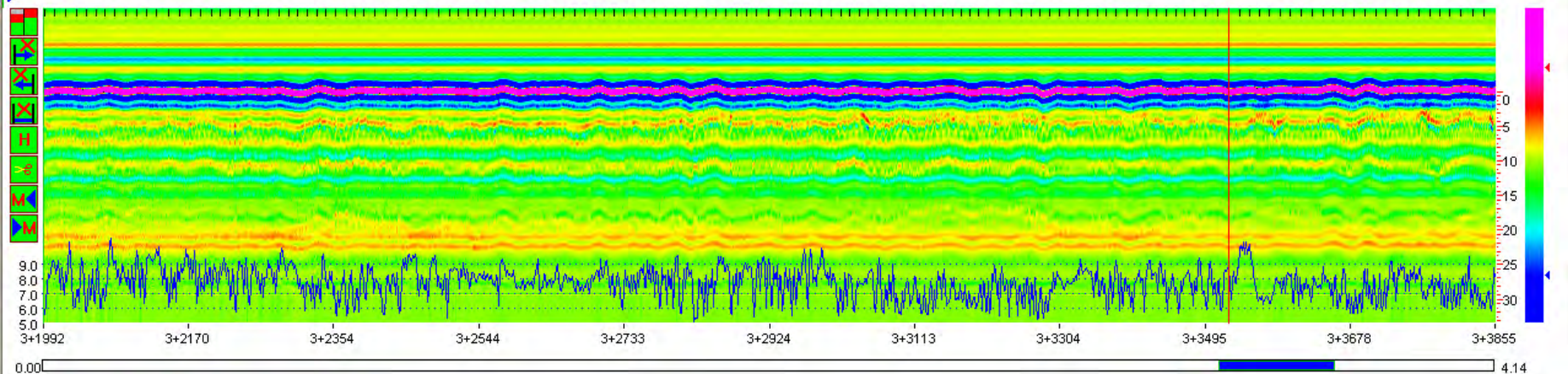




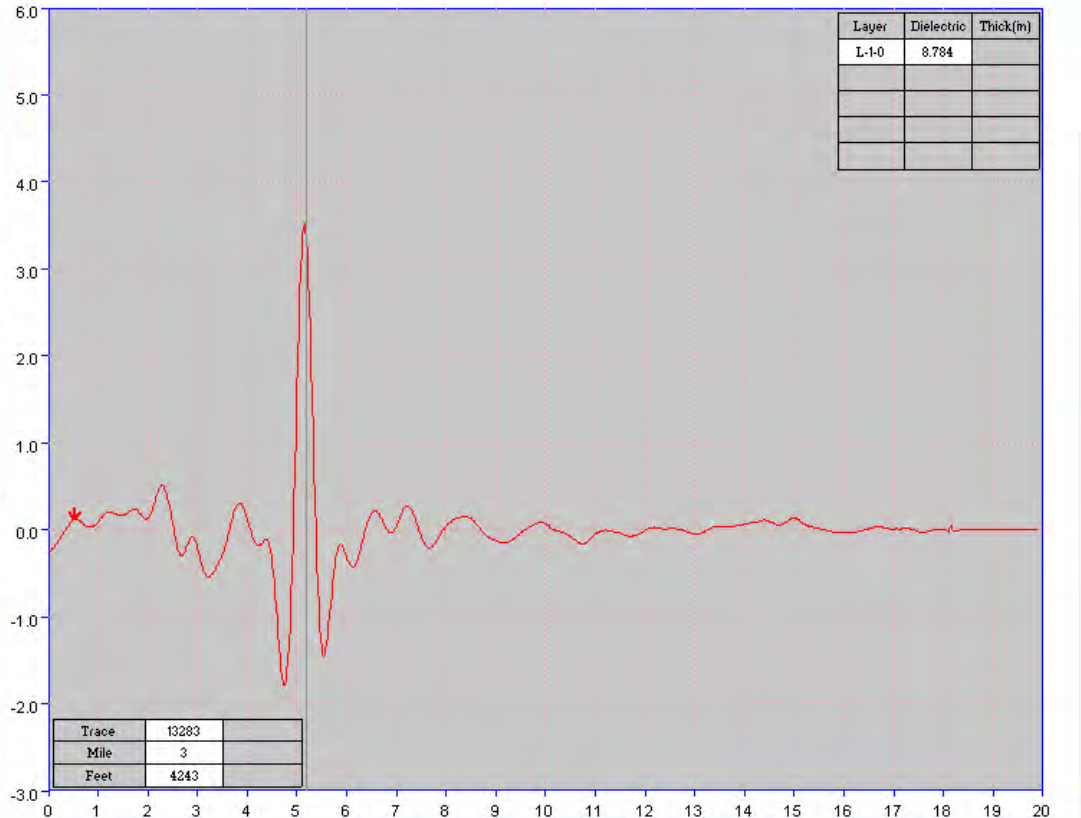
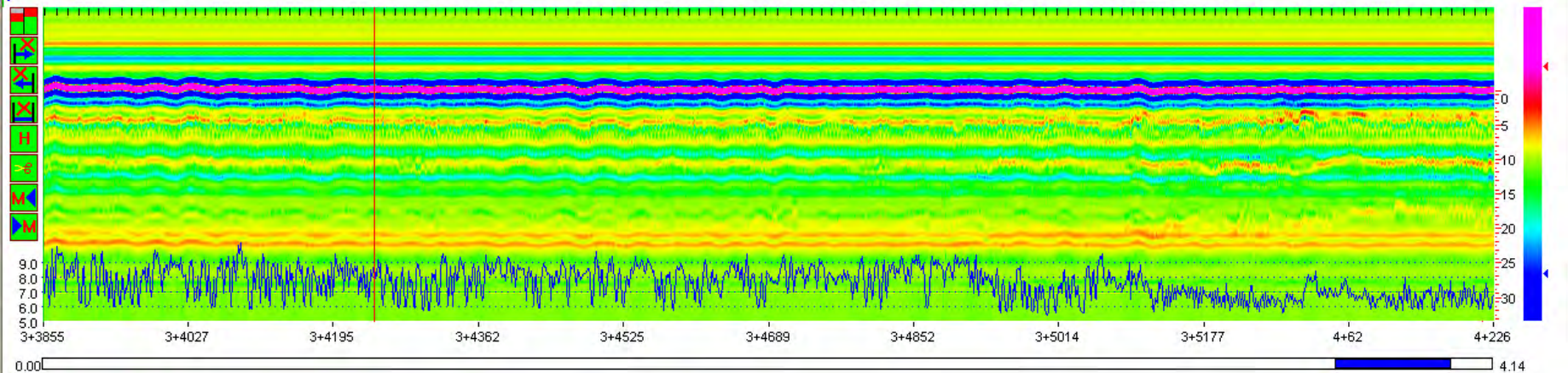




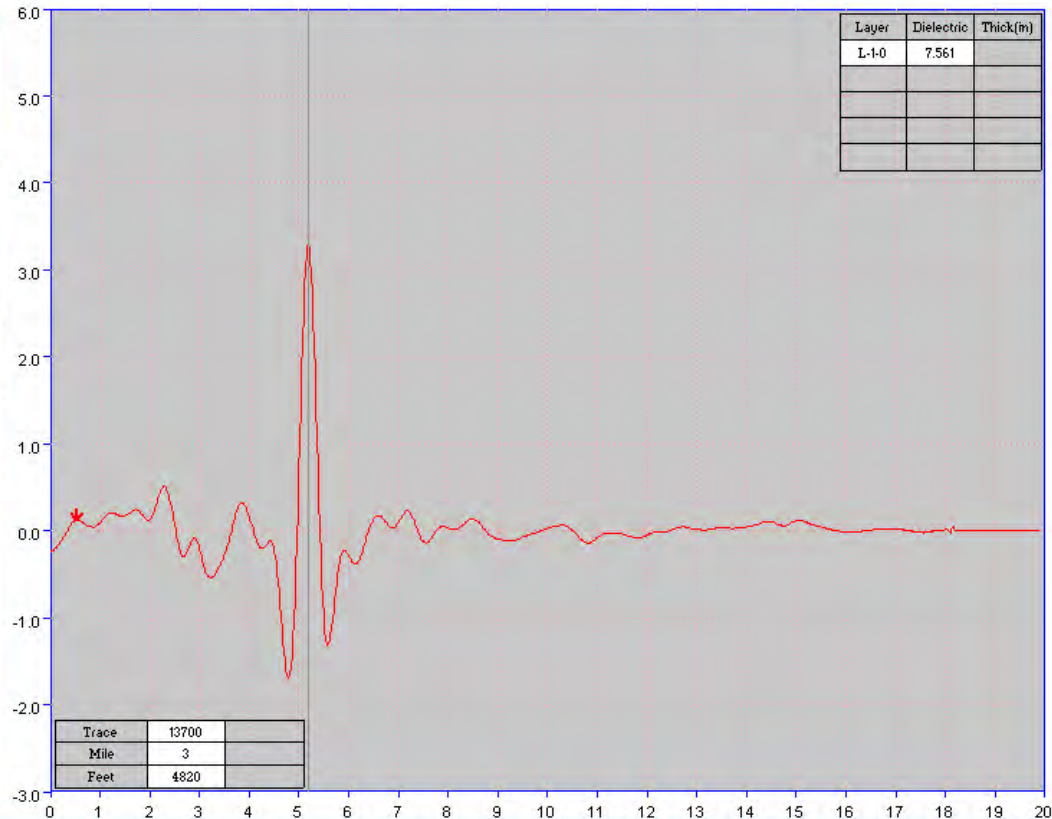
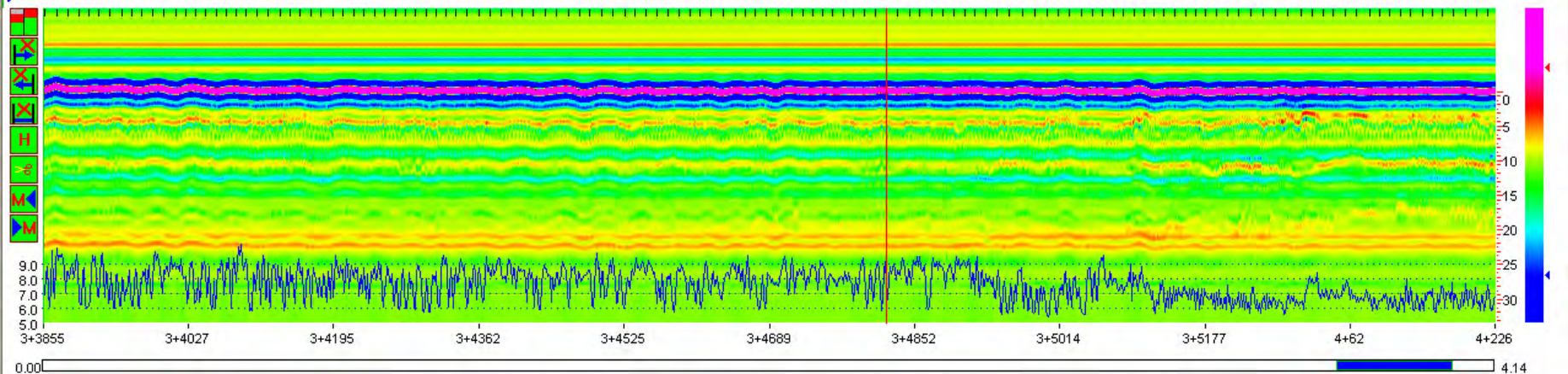




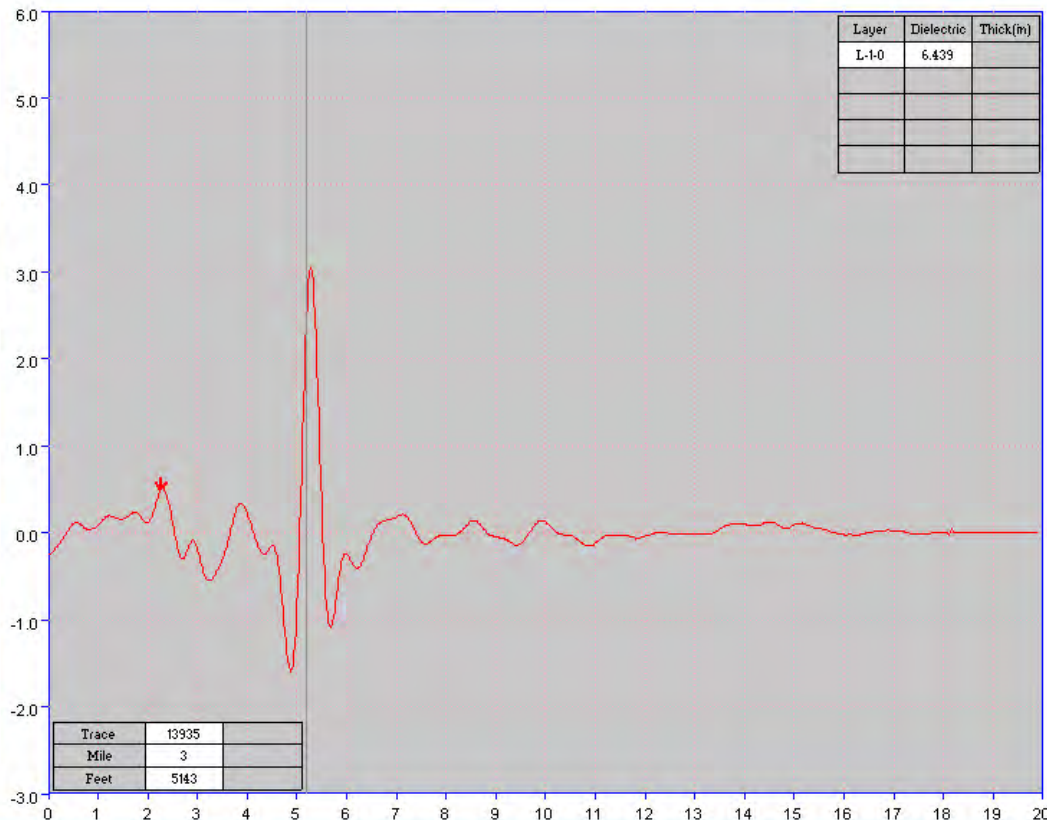
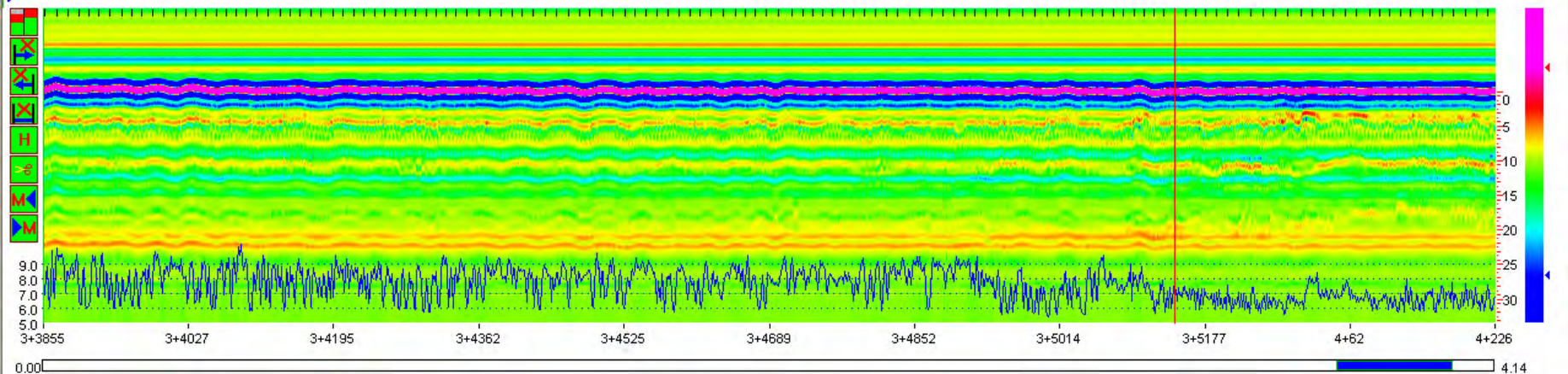




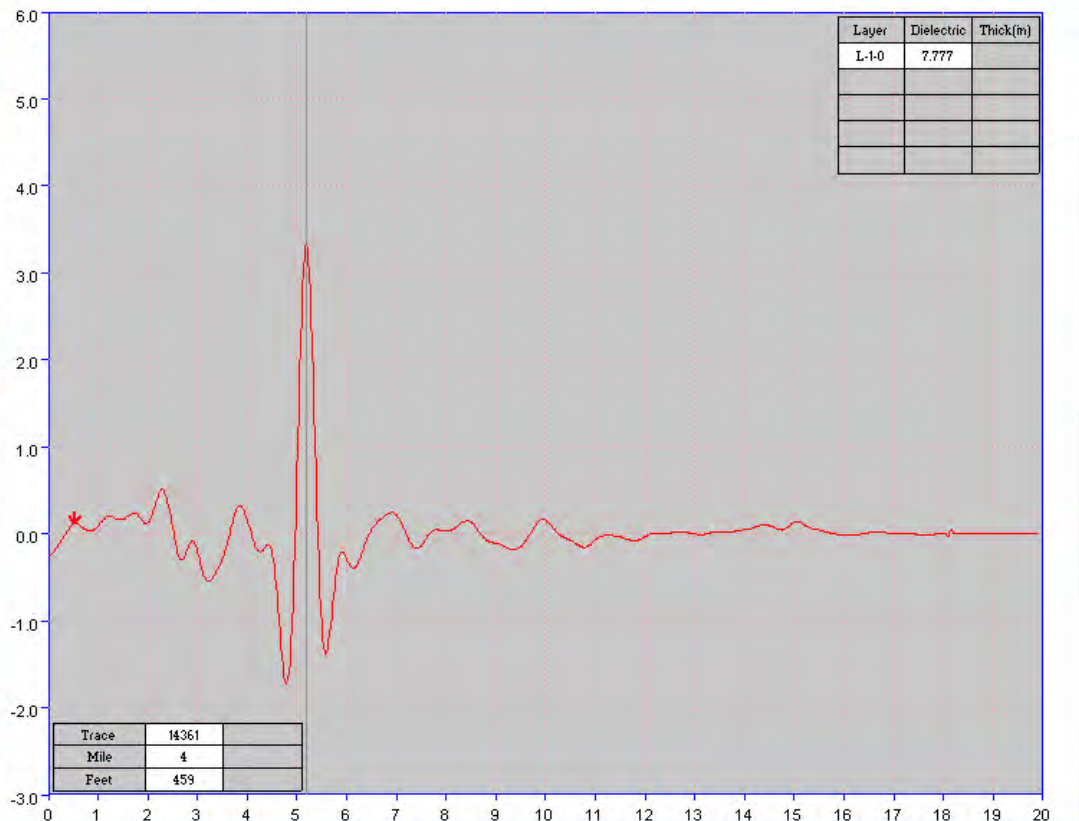
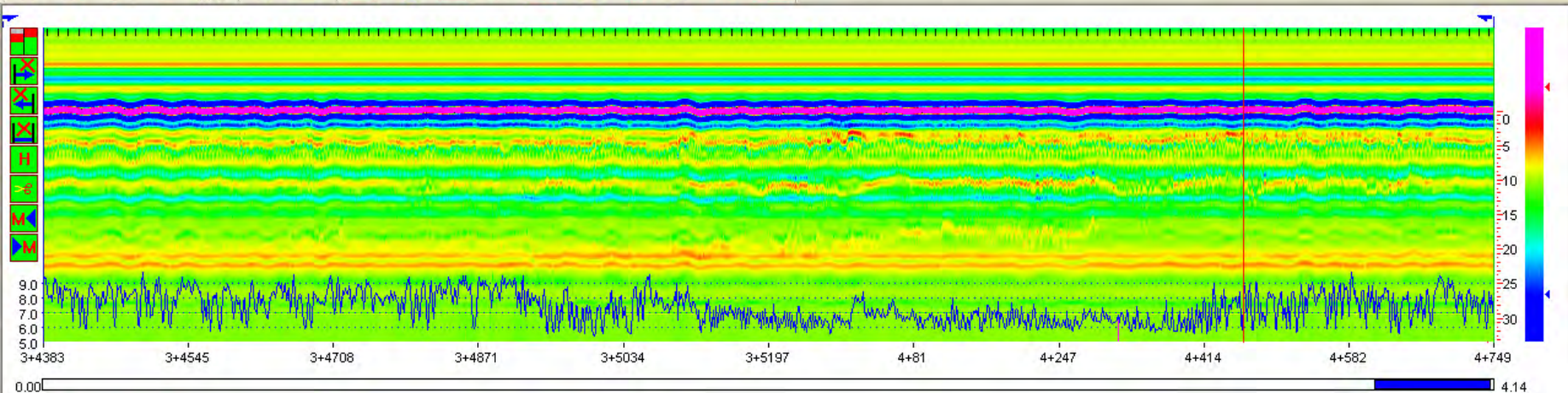












# Resiliency Requires Quick Responses

- Must Drive Over Saturated Pavements
- Using Heavy Vehicles (overweight restrictions waived for relief efforts)

And Even after Days of Harvey

- With exception of only one area on non-TxDOT road where Buffalo Bayou eroded behind retaining wall and under pavement, no CRCP repairs needed



Soldiers from the 79th Quartermaster Company assists in Hurricane Harvey rescue efforts. Army Times, September 1, 2017



Crews repair a flood-damaged section of the southbound lanes of the West Sam Houston Tollway on September 8 in this photo by the Harris County Toll Authority



## **How Did These CRCP Sections in Houston Perform So Well Despite Repeated Saturation Cycles and Excessive Traffic Levels?**

- Heavily stabilized, erosion-resistant bases that retain strength even when saturated
- Reinforced concrete to distribute load over saturated bases

## Conclusions

- Using heavily stabilized bases and subgrades results in waterproof layers
- There is more traffic, and more truck traffic, in most urban areas of Texas than pavement designers are using for pavement designs

Based on many examples, we conclude:

- The CRCP pavement system is resilient to extreme weather events like flooding and extreme traffic loading conditions



