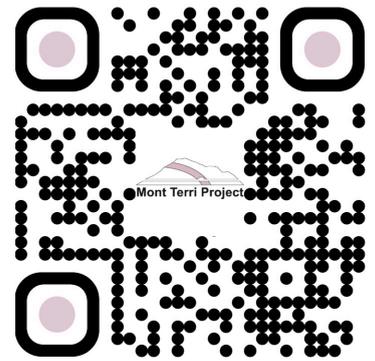


Mont Terri Project Underground Rock Laboratory

Report period: February 23, 2026 – March 1, 2026

Assembled and edited by swisstopo, St-Ursanne



Spotlight of the week: Cementing the casing: the bottom of the cementing string consists of an aluminum piece equipped with a valve that's held in place by a spring (bottom left). Through the inner pipe (top) the cement is pushed onto the valve, opening it with the pressure applied. This allows for the cement to flow through the holes (bottom right) into the ring space between the casing and the rock securing the casing in place and tightening the system. Once the cement has hardened, the bottom part is destroyed and drilling continues (Fig. S. Schefer, swisstopo).

CL (CO₂LPIE-CO₂ Long-Term Periodic Injection) experiment

- On Monday, February 23, D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) switched the geochemical online probes of all circuits into monitoring mode.
- On Monday, February 23, Due to a malfunction of the syringe pump in the morning D. Jaeggi (swisstopo) performed a restart of the steering software. With remote assistance of J. Gisiger (Solexperts) the injection pressure could be set back to 1.6 MPa.
- On Wednesday, February 25, M. Ziegler (swisstopo) moved the seismic DAS from PF-A to CL to continue seismic monitoring and conduct active seismic transmission surveys.
- On Friday, February 27, S. Schefer (swisstopo) restarted the computer for the seismic acquisition system.

DB-B (Deep Borehole to resolve the Mont Terri Anticline Hydrogeology) experiment

- From Monday to Friday, February 23–27, C. Etter and J. Windisch (swisstopo) measured the water pH, temperature, resistivity and flow at the St-Ursanne sources, river and water pump station. These measurements will be ongoing twice a daily until the casing through the aquifer layers is safely cemented.
- On Monday, February 23, drilling started in two shifts with a progress from 2.75-36.5 m depth.
- On Tuesday, February 24, B. Hostettler (NMBE) was on site for the stratigraphic description of the first 50 m of cores.
- On Tuesday, February 24, drilling continued from 36.5-54 m. Top Sornetan member was reached at 47 m. Drilling stopped and the Stump team started reaming the first section to 162 mm.
- From Wednesday to Thursday, February 25–26, the entire PQ-section was reamed to 162 mm.
- On Thursday, February 26, M. Frädlich (Terratec) performed logging the entire section down to 53 m (CAL, FWS, MSus, SGR, Latero) (**Figure 1**).
- On Friday, February 27, the casing was set and cemented to a depth of 52.3 m. After the cement bond log (CBL) Monday morning, drilling will continue in PQ.

FE-M (Long-Term Monitoring of the Full-Scale Emplacement Experiment) experiment

- On Wednesday, February 25, S. Schefer (swisstopo) set all three heaters to automatic mode with the remote assistance from S. Tuñón (Amphos21).

HS (Hydrogeological Survey of the Mont Terri Anticline) experiment

- On Wednesday, February 25, S. Schefer (swisstopo) installed a GPS antenna at the office building and a device to bring the signal through the network into Niche Passwang. With remote guidance of S. Schröder (GFZ) a second device was set up and connected to the gravimeter. There is now precise GPS time signal on the gravimeter.

HT (Hydrogen Transfer in Opalinus Clay) experiment

- On Monday, February 23, J. Windisch (swisstopo) emptied the Tedlar bag attached to the BHT-1 system.

IS-E (In-situ stress measurements using a novel flat jack method) experiment

- From Monday to Thursday, February 23–26, A. Eul (Eul GmbH) together with D. Novotny M. Krentz and C. Lege (BGR) drilled BIS-E2 to its final depth of 10.2 m and moved the drill rig to BIS-E1. Despite the challenging geological conditions, they successfully completed four measurements using the “BGR overcoring method”.
- On Friday, February 27, A. Eul (Eul GmbH) together with D. Novotny and C. Lege (BGR) started drilling of the inclined borehole BIS-E1 down to 3.3 m.

PF-A (Progressive Evolution of Structurally-Controlled Overbreaks: Long-term monitoring, hydromechanical simulation and rock testing) experiment

- From Tuesday to Friday, February 24–27, M. Furche (BGR, remotely) with onsite support from S. Schefer, J. Windisch and M. Ziegler (swisstopo) performed ERT measurements in boreholes BPF-1 to BPF-6.
- On Wednesday, February 25, M. Ziegler (swisstopo) moved the seismic DAS from CL to PF-A to conduct active seismic transmission surveys. The transmissions were manually started.

SW-A (Large-Scale Sandwich Seal in Opalinus Clay) experiment

- From Tuesday to Thursday, February 24–26, S. Schefer and J. Windisch (swisstopo) moved the ERT measurement equipment from shaft 1 to the PF experiment. Measurements continued on Thursday night.
- On Thursday, February 26, J. Windisch (swisstopo) refilled the HPT of shaft 1.

Visits

Day	Date	Group Name	Group Size	Visitors Guide
Mon	23.2.2026	Nukleartechnikerschule, Baden	10	R. Nicol (swisstopo)
Tue	24.2.2026	Axpo Power AG, Besucherwesen KKB, Zwilag	9	R. Nicol (swisstopo)

Figures



Figure 1: DB-B: Logging from the bus over the drill rig (S. Schefer, swisstopo).