



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

John Petrilla
Environmental Protection Specialist
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
24000 Avila Road, Suite 5020
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

By email at bpamnepa@cbp.dhs.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

John Petrilla:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental and historic review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, (NHPA). Pursuant to NEPA, NHPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. OEA is currently gathering information about the project and is requesting your input to assist us in determining the appropriate scope and level of the environmental review.

Project Description

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

The proposed rail line would be part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas, United States. The corridor would include the rail line, a 1.3-mile roadway for commercial trucks, inspection facilities for the rail line and roadway, and a control tower that would service both the roadway and rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 2 Project Overview). This project is intended to alleviate the existing congestion at the current border crossing at Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass and to facilitate international trade between Mexico and the United States. A variety of commodities including, but not limited to, beer, vehicles, corn, chemical compounds, and plastics, would move to and from Mexico over the proposed rail line.

The planned trains would consist of approximately 150 cars with 2 locomotives on the front end and one on the rear end for an approximate train length of 9,300 feet. Freight would be handled in box cars, refrigerated box cars, gondola cars, intermodal double stack cars, tank cars and hopper cars for grains and other dry material. The roadway would include a perimeter fence and the rail corridor would be fully fenced, video monitored, and patrolled by security personnel. Inspection processing would be offered 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

As part of the proposed project, inspection and operations facilities would be constructed for the new rail line and new roadway, including radiation portal monitors, truck scales, non-intrusive inspection facilities, secondary inspection facilities, truck queue area, primary booths, and hazardous materials emergency drip pits. These inspection facilities would be constructed according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requirements. Once constructed, CBP would operate the inspection services and the facilities would either be leased; ownership of the facilities would be transferred to the General Services Administration; or the inspection facilities would be operated as a privately owned Central Examination Station as outlined in 19 C.F.R. Part 118. The rail line and roadway bridges across the Rio Grande River would have one in-water bridge support each.

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OEA would like to hear from your agency about whether this project would require permitting from your agency or whether your agency has any other requirements or concerns about the project. Because your agency may have to conduct a NEPA review of certain aspects of this project, OEA welcomes input on whether your agency might be interested in participating as a cooperating agency in OEA's NEPA review. OEA intends to reach out to potential cooperating agencies in the coming weeks to further discuss this project.

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You may also send your written comments to Andrea Poole, OEA's Project Manager for this case, by mail to:

Andrea Poole
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Docket No. FD 36652
395 E Street SW
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We look forward to hearing from your agency. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a call, please feel free to contact Andrea Poole of my staff at 202-934-3330 (cell) or by email at Andrea.Poole@stb.gov.

Sincerely,

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Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

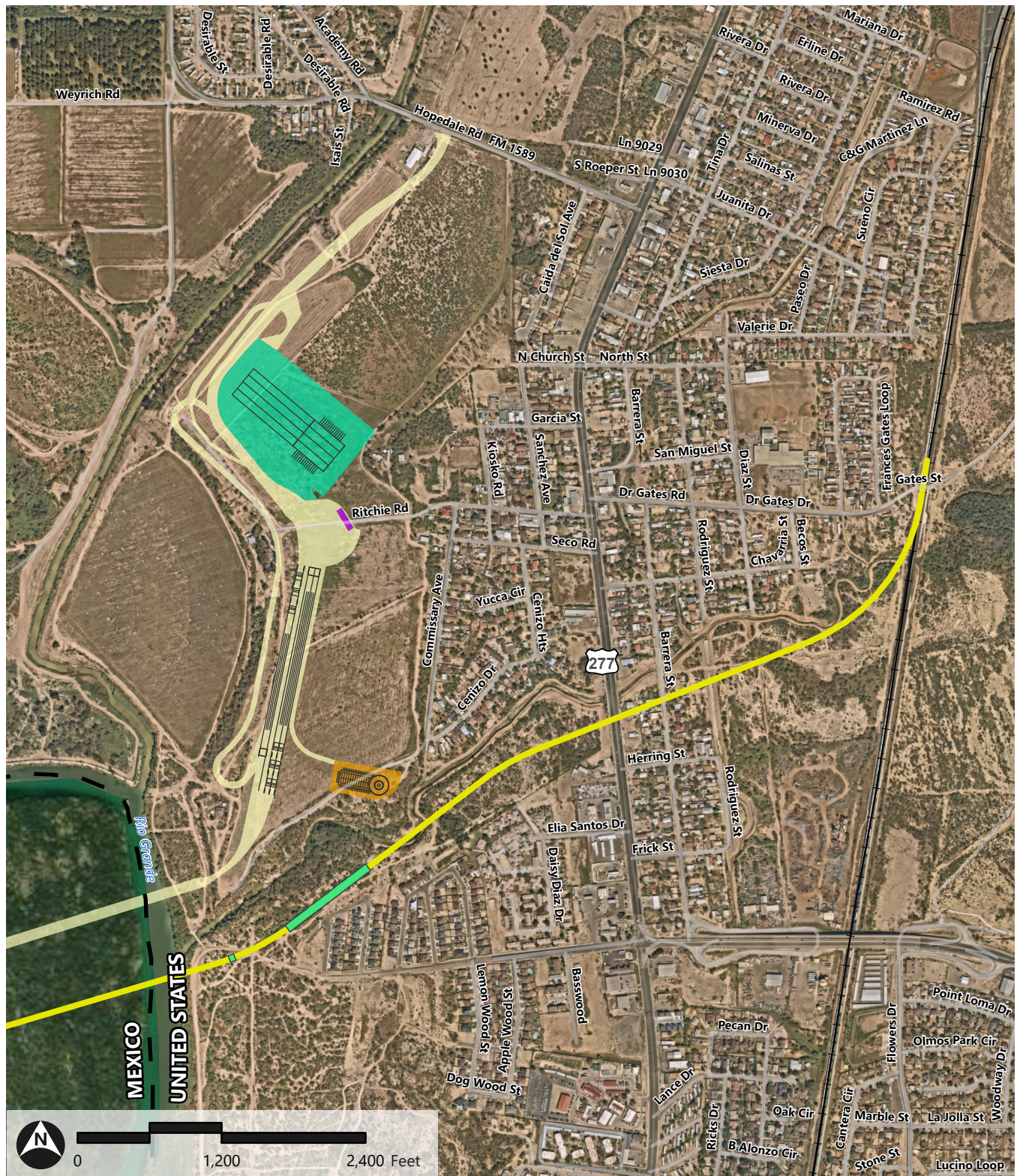
Figure 1: Project Overview



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- Border Crossing Location
- Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH) Proposed International Commercial Transportation Corridor

Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



- Proposed Rail Line
- Proposed Roadway
- Proposed Inspection Facility
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- Proposed Operations Tower
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Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap

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Tom Bruechert
Environmental Program Manager
Federal Highway Administration
Texas Division
300 East 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701

By email at Tom.Bruechert@dot.gov

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Tom Bruechert:

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for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

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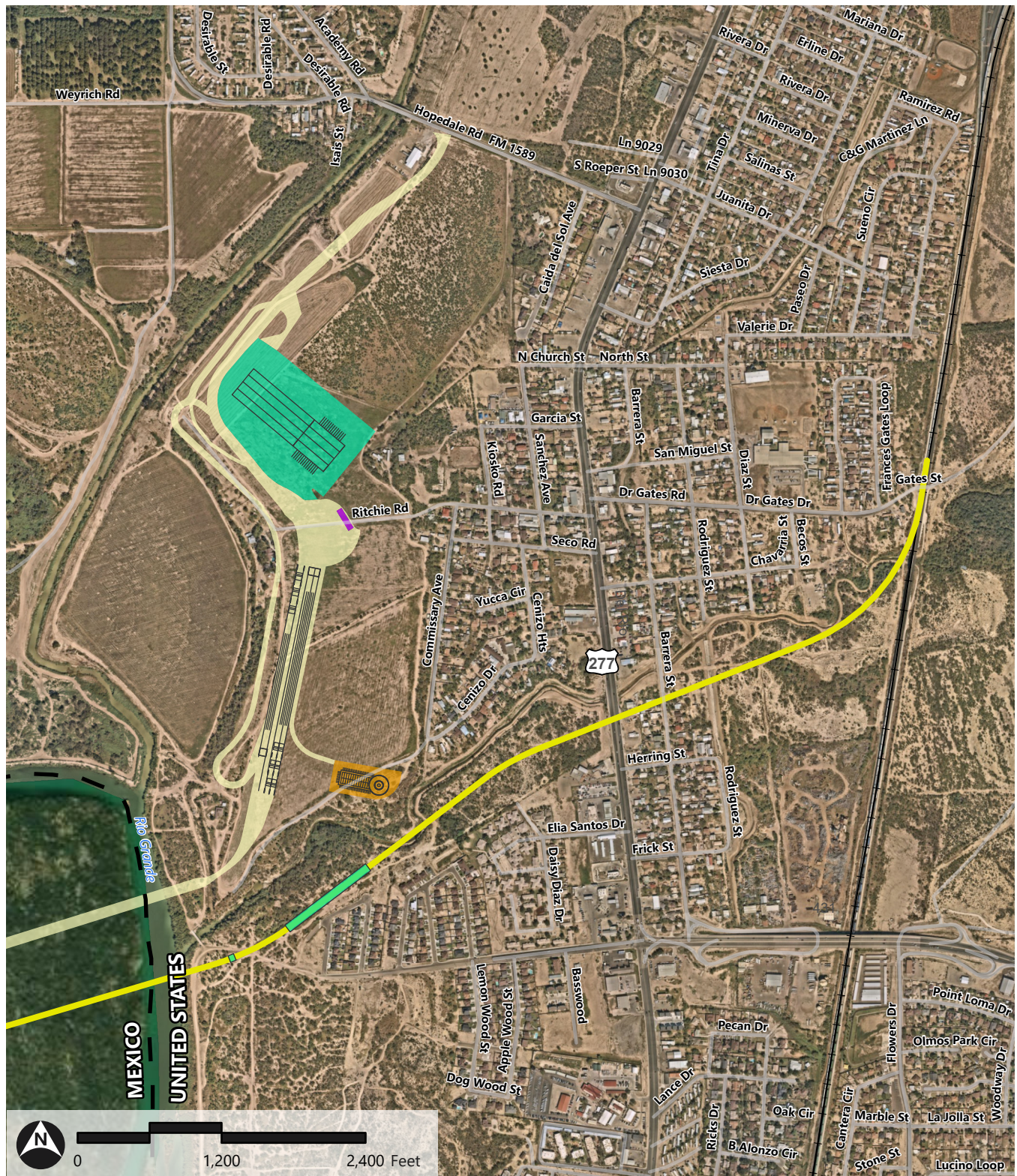
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Charlie Hart
Southern Border Executive
General Services Administration
Greater Southwest Region 7
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

By email at Charlie.hart@gsa.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Charlie Hart:

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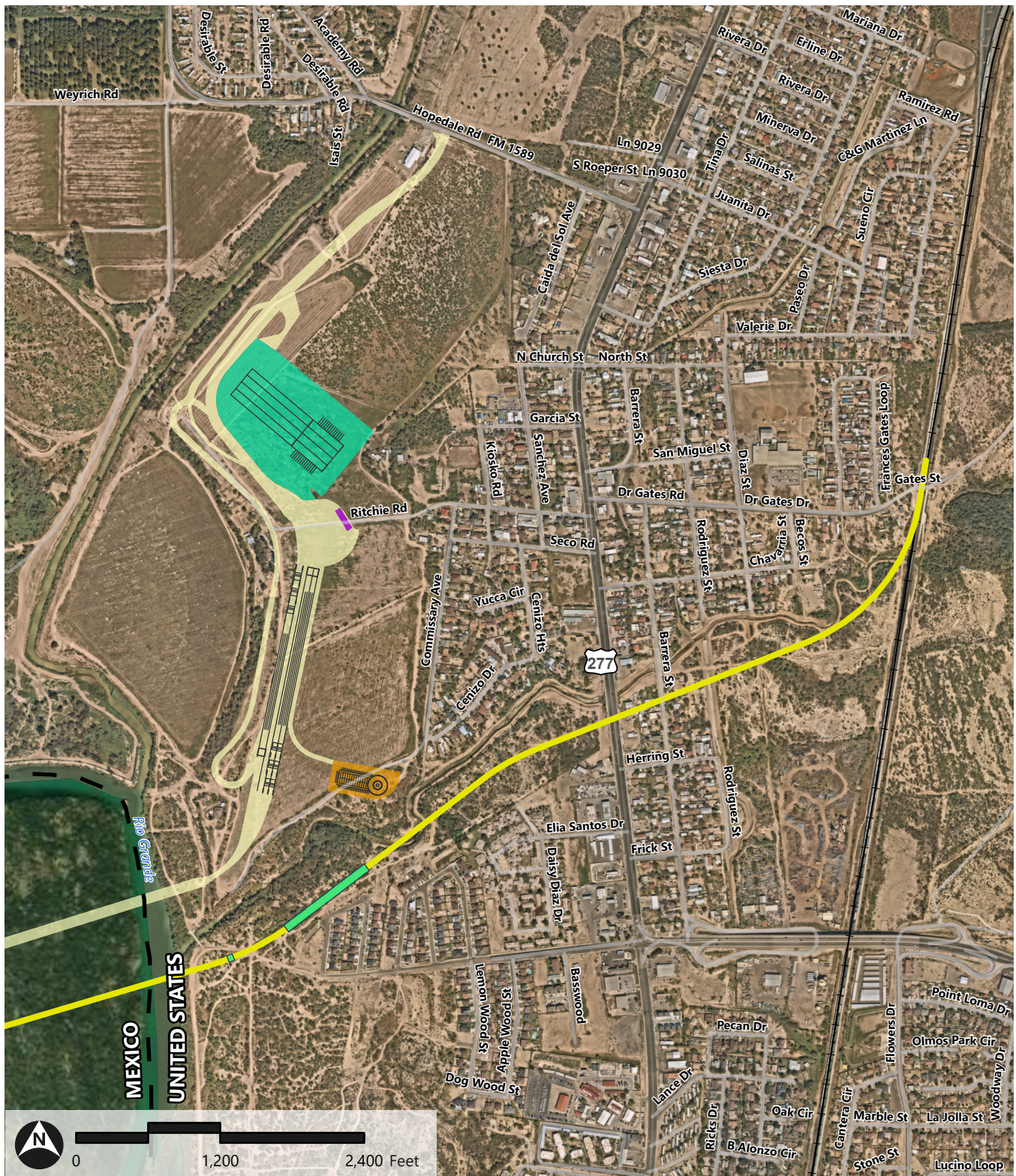
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El Paso, TX 79902-1423

By email at john.claudio@ibwc.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

John Claudio:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental and historic review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, (NHPA). Pursuant to NEPA, NHPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. OEA is currently gathering information about the project and is requesting your input to assist us in determining the appropriate scope and level of the environmental review.

Project Description

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

The proposed rail line would be part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas, United States. The corridor would include the rail line, a 1.3-mile roadway for commercial trucks, inspection facilities for the rail line and roadway, and a control tower that would service both the roadway and rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 2 Project Overview). This project is intended to alleviate the existing congestion at the current border crossing at Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass and to facilitate international trade between Mexico and the United States. A variety of commodities including, but not limited to, beer, vehicles, corn, chemical compounds, and plastics, would move to and from Mexico over the proposed rail line.

The planned trains would consist of approximately 150 cars with 2 locomotives on the front end and one on the rear end for an approximate train length of 9,300 feet. Freight would be handled in box cars, refrigerated box cars, gondola cars, intermodal double stack cars, tank cars and hopper cars for grains and other dry material. The roadway would include a perimeter fence and the rail corridor would be fully fenced, video monitored, and patrolled by security personnel. Inspection processing would be offered 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

As part of the proposed project, inspection and operations facilities would be constructed for the new rail line and new roadway, including radiation portal monitors, truck scales, non-intrusive inspection facilities, secondary inspection facilities, truck queue area, primary booths, and hazardous materials emergency drip pits. These inspection facilities would be constructed according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requirements. Once constructed, CBP would operate the inspection services and the facilities would either be leased; ownership of the facilities would be transferred to the General Services Administration; or the inspection facilities would be operated as a privately owned Central Examination Station as outlined in 19 C.F.R. Part 118. The rail line and roadway bridges across the Rio Grande River would have one in-water bridge support each.

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Andrea Poole
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Docket No. FD 36652
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Sincerely,

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Danielle Gosselin
Director
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Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

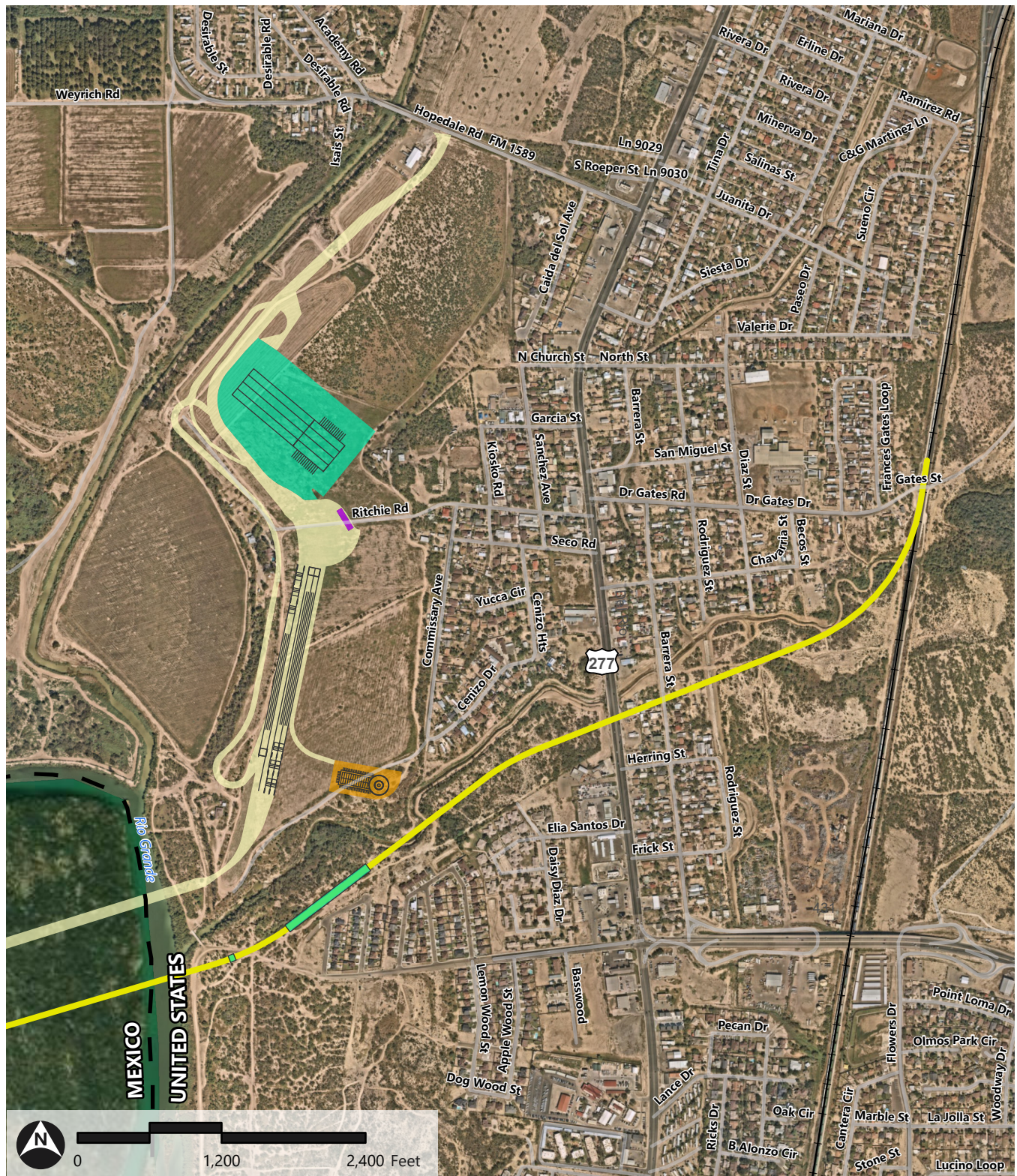
Figure 1: Project Overview



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- Border Crossing Location
- Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH) Proposed International Commercial Transportation Corridor

Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



- Proposed Rail Line
- Proposed Roadway
- Proposed Inspection Facility
- Proposed Operations Tower
- Hazardous Materials Drip Pit
- US/Mexico Country Boundary
- +— Existing Union Pacific Railroad

Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Joel Saldivar
Realty Specialist
International Boundary and Water Commission
4191 North Mesa Street
El Paso, TX 79902-1423

By email at joel.saldivar@ibwc.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Joel Saldivar:

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Project Description

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Danielle Gosselin
Director
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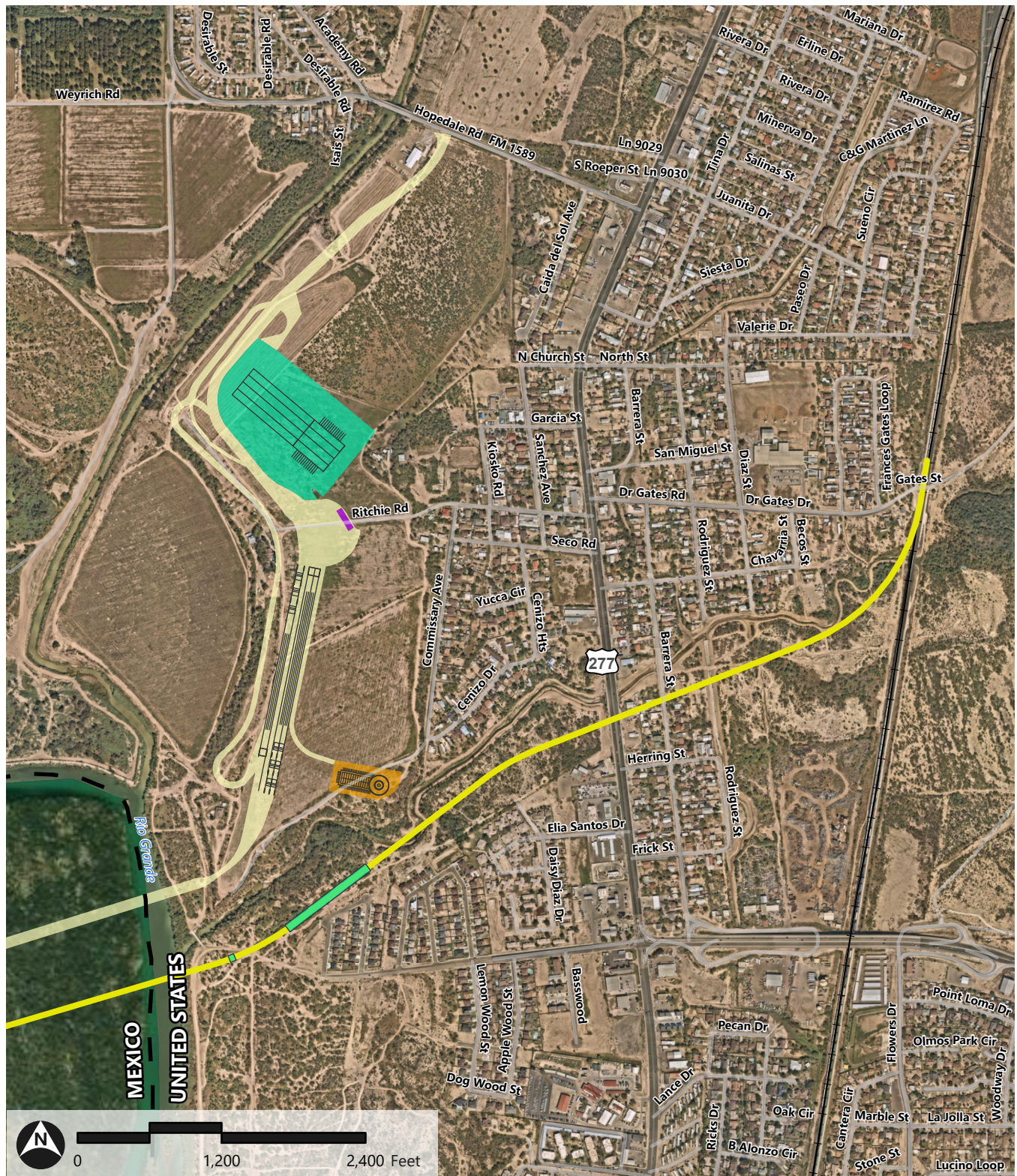
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December 7, 2023

Roberto Rodriguez
Director of Transportation Planning & Development
Texas Department of Transportation
Laredo District Planning & Development
1817 Bob Bullock Loop
Laredo, TX 78043

By email at roberto.rodriguez@txdot.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Roberto Rodriguez:

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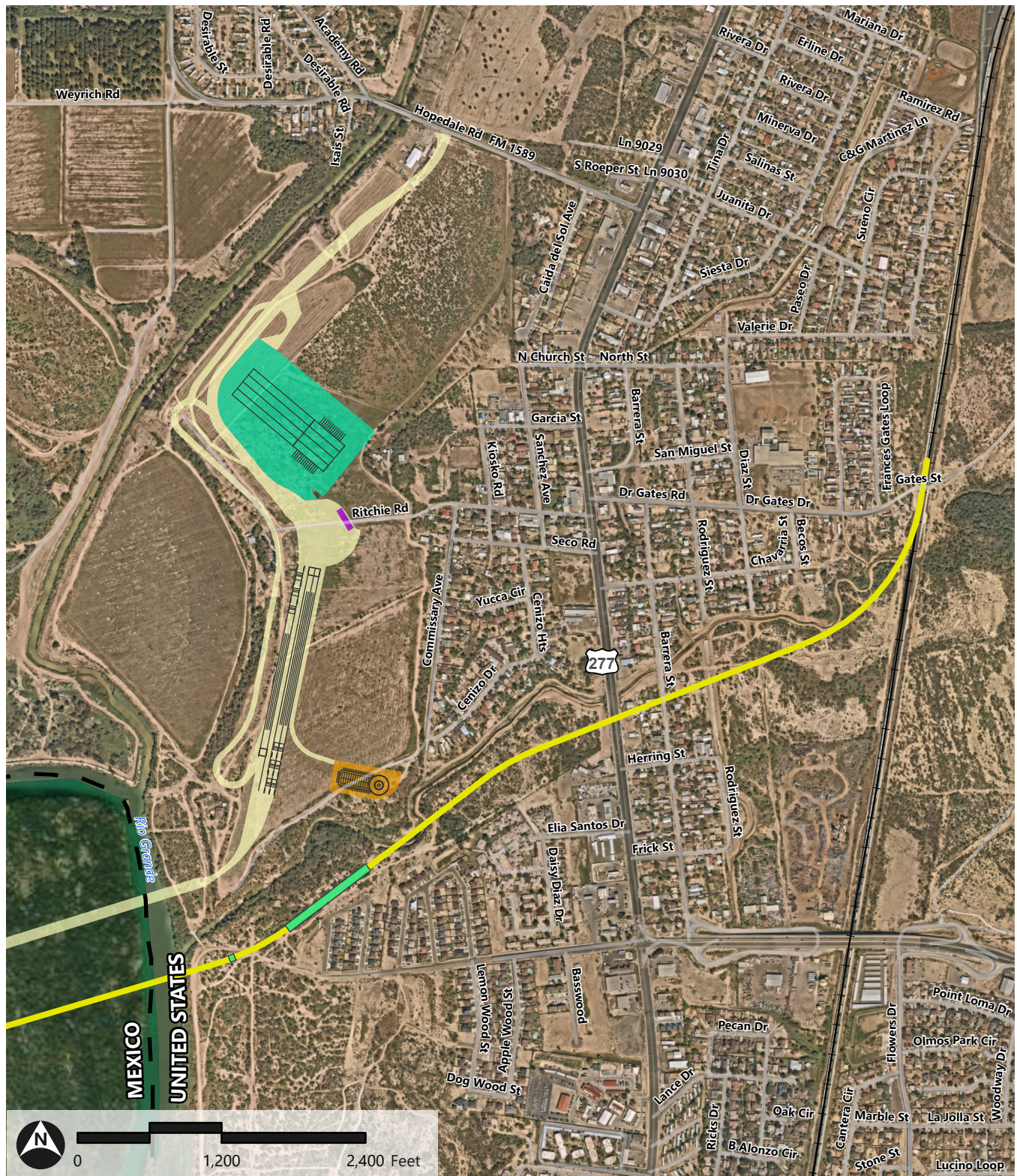
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Hillary Quam
Mexico Desk Boarder Affairs Team
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

By email at quamhc@state.gov

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Consultation**

Hillary Quam:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental and historic review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, (NHPA). Pursuant to NEPA, NHPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. OEA is currently gathering information about the project and is requesting your input to assist us in determining the appropriate scope and level of the environmental review.

Project Description

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

The proposed rail line would be part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas, United States. The corridor would include the rail line, a 1.3-mile roadway for commercial trucks, inspection facilities for the rail line and roadway, and a control tower that would service both the roadway and rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 2 Project Overview). This project is intended to alleviate the existing congestion at the current border crossing at Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass and to facilitate international trade between Mexico and the United States. A variety of commodities including, but not limited to, beer, vehicles, corn, chemical compounds, and plastics, would move to and from Mexico over the proposed rail line.

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Request for Comments/Involvement

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Andrea Poole
Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 36652
395 E Street SW
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We look forward to hearing from your agency. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a call, please feel free to contact Andrea Poole of my staff at 202-934-3330 (cell) or by email at Andrea.Poole@stb.gov.

Sincerely,

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Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

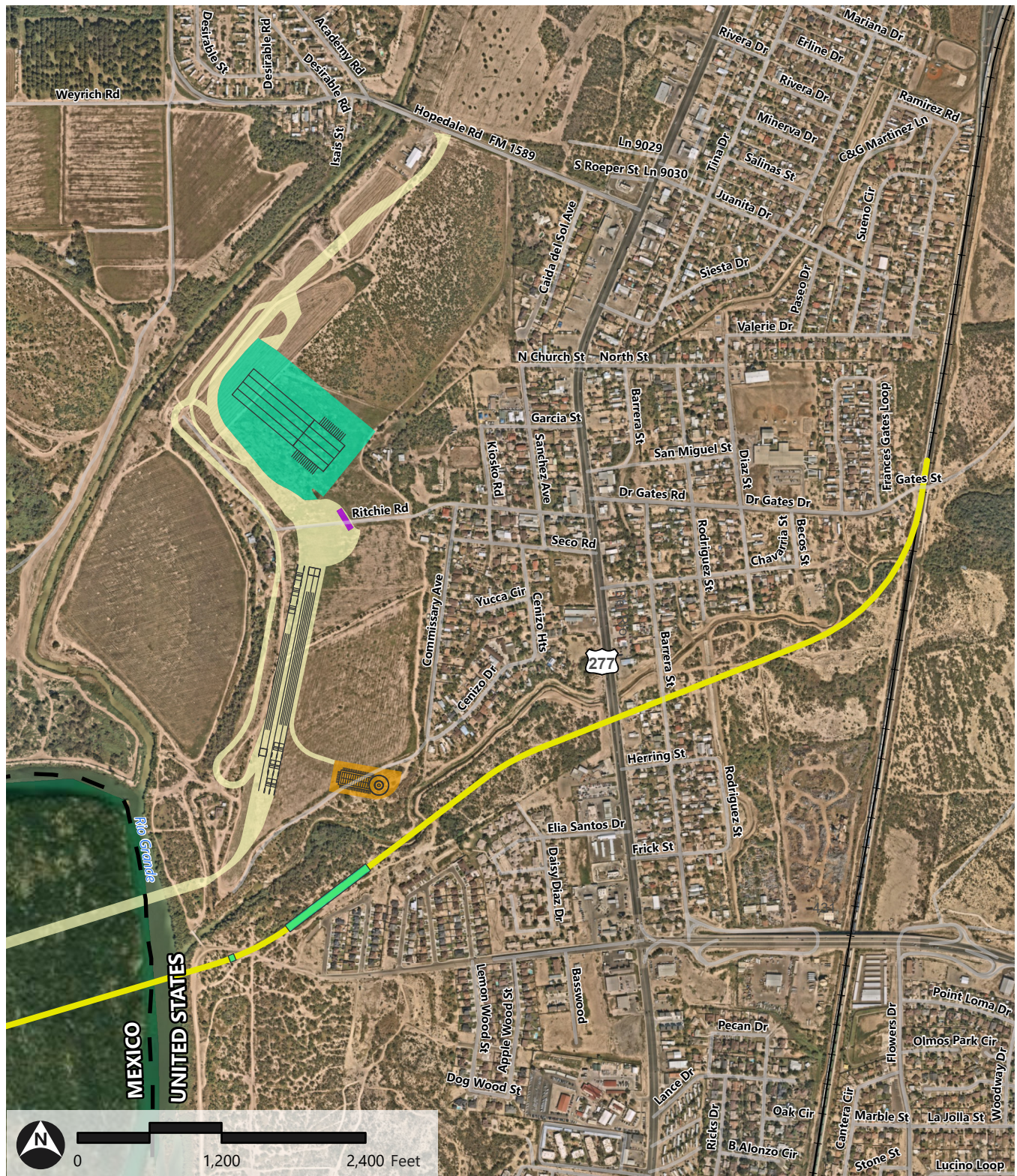
Figure 1: Project Overview



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- Border Crossing Location
- Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH) Proposed International Commercial Transportation Corridor

Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



- Proposed Rail Line
- Proposed Roadway
- Proposed Inspection Facility
- Proposed Inspection Facility
- Proposed Operations Tower
- Proposed Operations Tower
- Hazardous Materials Drip Pit
- Hazardous Materials Drip Pit
- US/Mexico Country Boundary
- Existing Union Pacific Railroad

Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Arnold Newman
Deputy District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth Regulatory District
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300

By email at arnold.newman@usace.army.mil

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

Arnold Newman:

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Project Description

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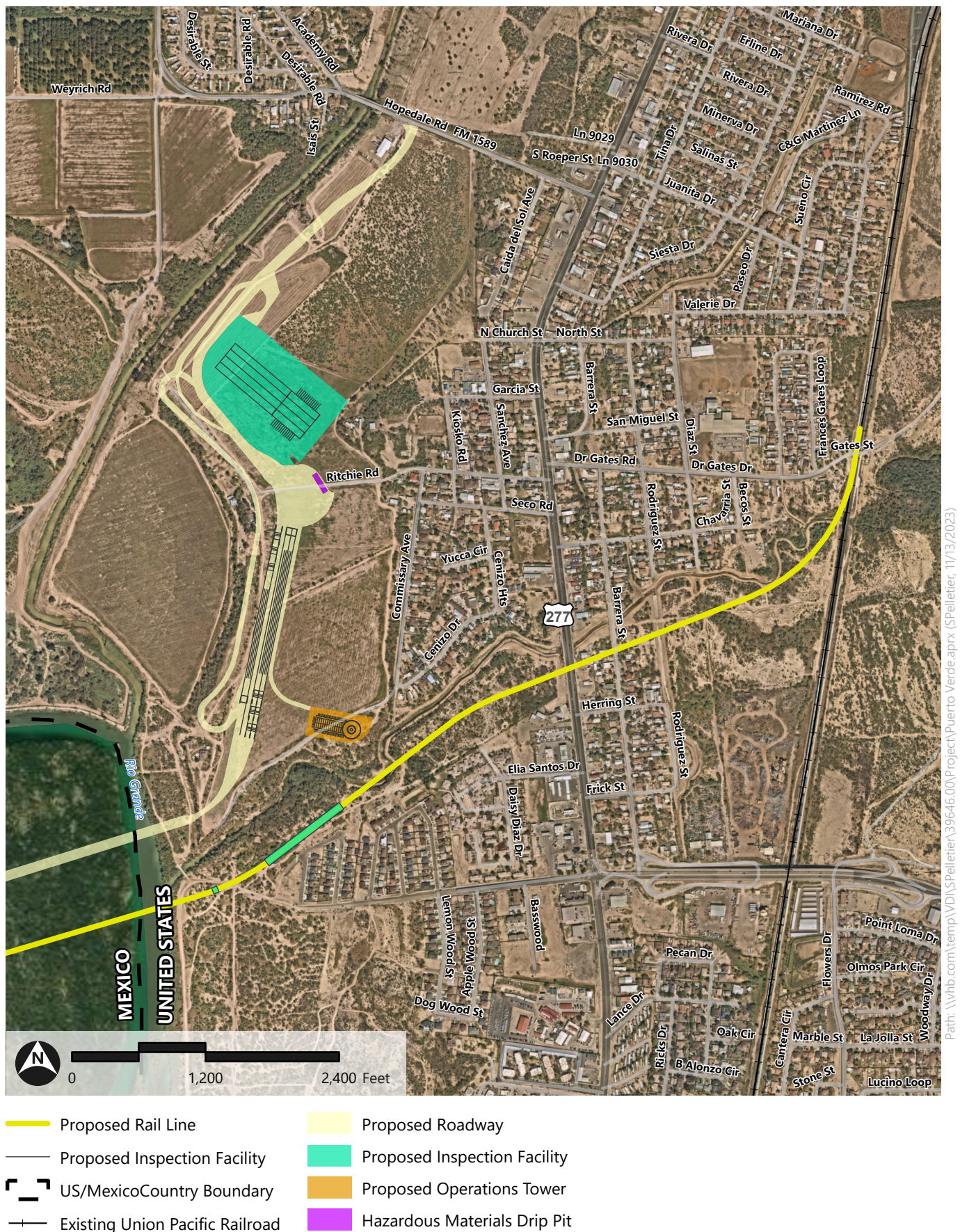
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

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December 7, 2023

Ronald Johnsen
U.S. Coast Guard
Office of Environmental Management
2703 Martin Luther King Ave SE, Stop 7501
Washington, DC 20593-7103

By email at ronald.l.johnsen@uscg.mil

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Ronald Johnsen:

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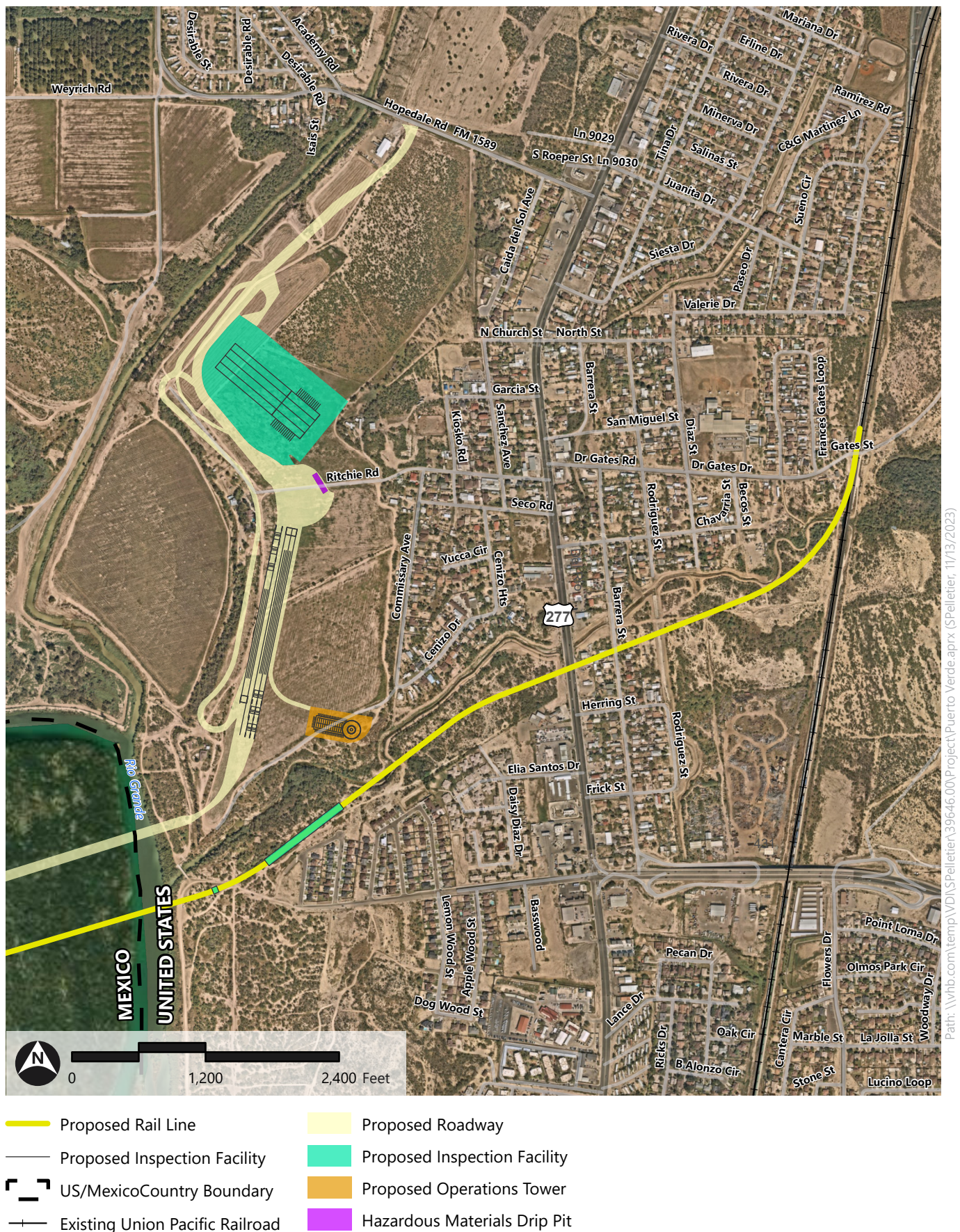
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Terry Bruner
Deputy Regional Director – Indian Services
Bureau of Indian Affairs
P.O. Box 368
Anadarko, OK 73005

By email at terry.bruner@bia.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Consultation**

Terry Bruner:

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Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 36652
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Danielle Gosselin

Director

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Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

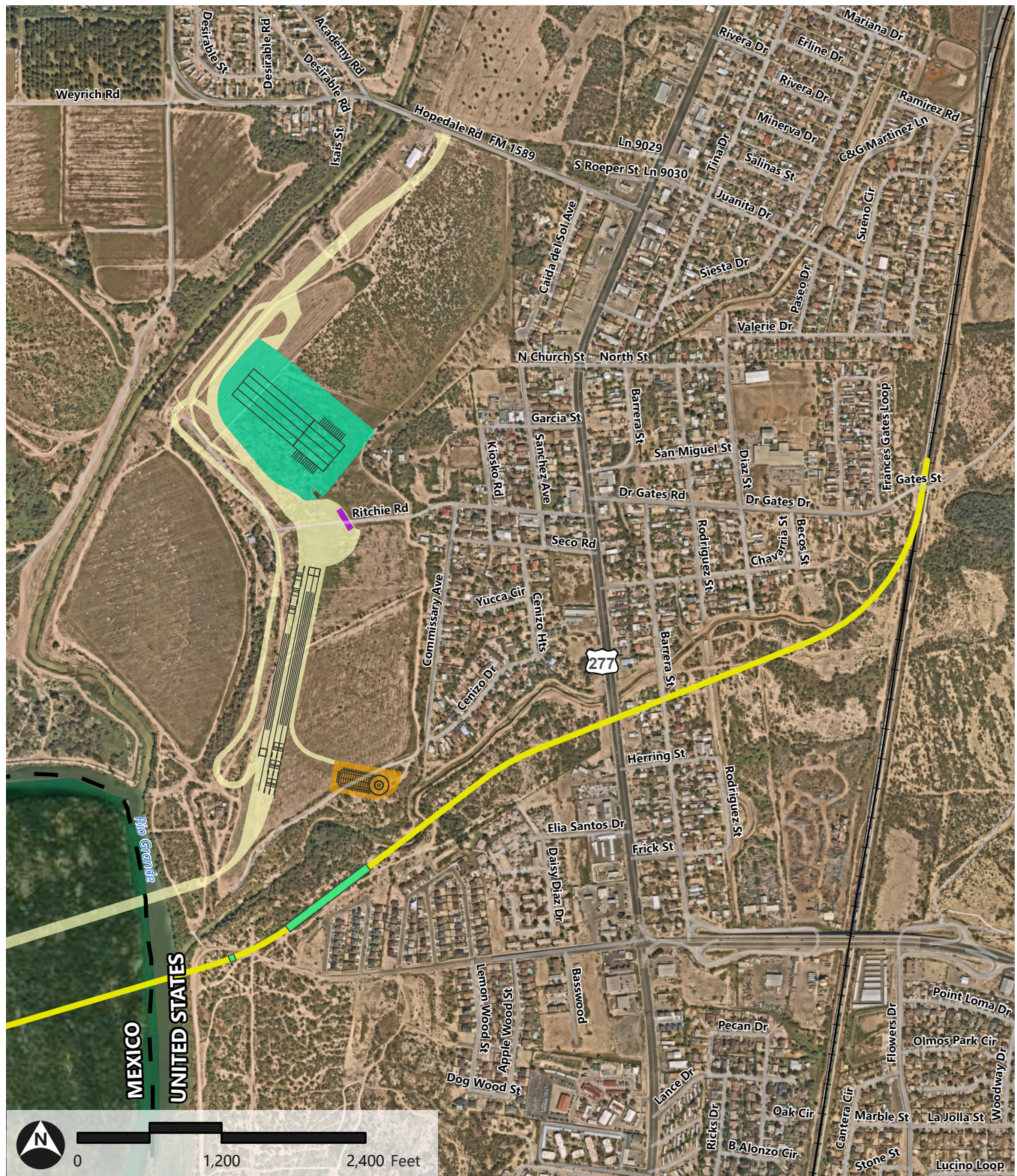
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



- Proposed Rail Line
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Homero Balderas
Bridge General Manager
City of Eagle Pass
100 South Monroe
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at homero.balderas@eaglepasstx.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Homero Balderas:

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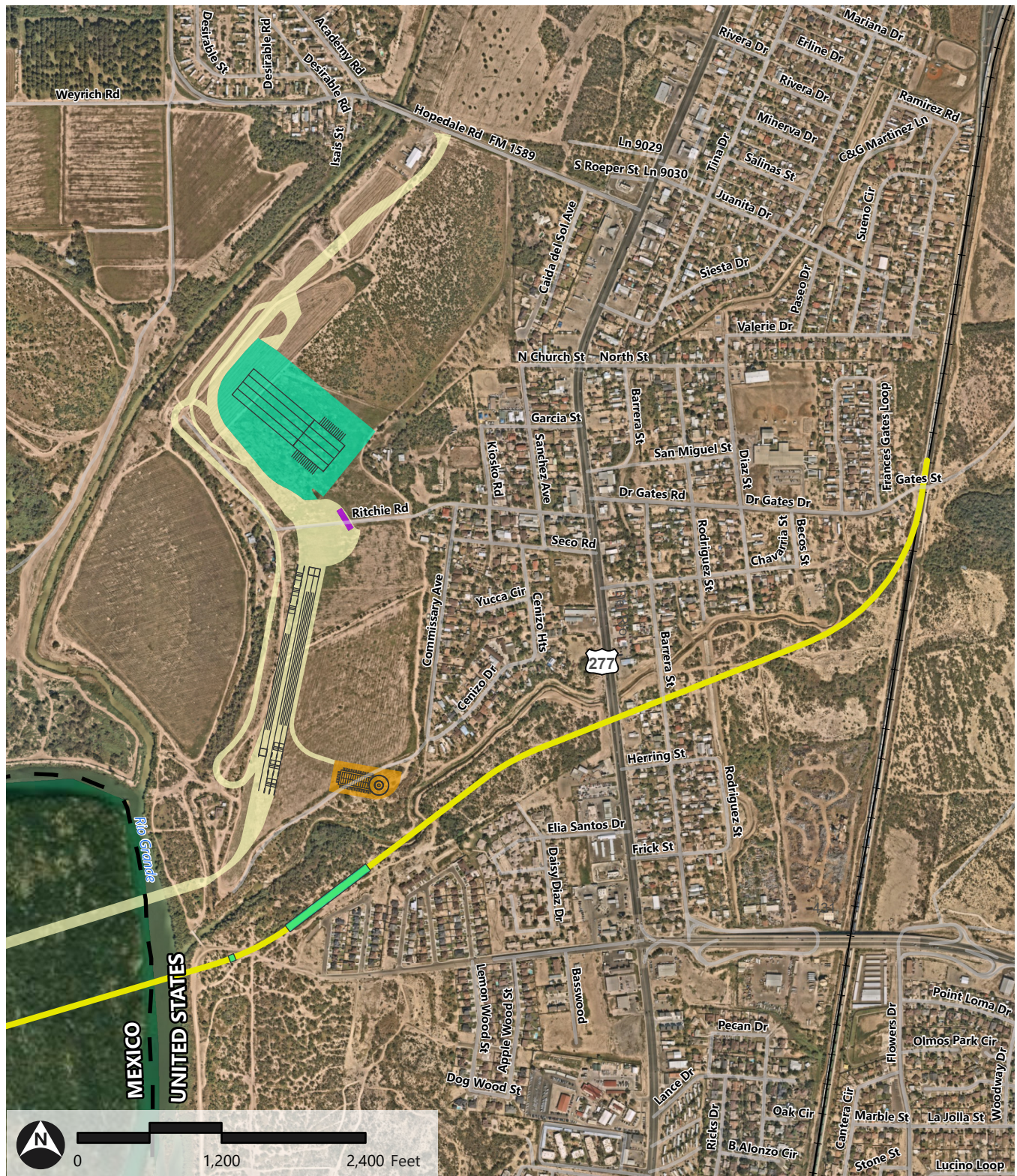
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December 7, 2023

Luis Velez
Chairman
City of Eagle Pass
100 South Monroe
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at lvelez@eaglepassisd.net

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Chairman Velez:

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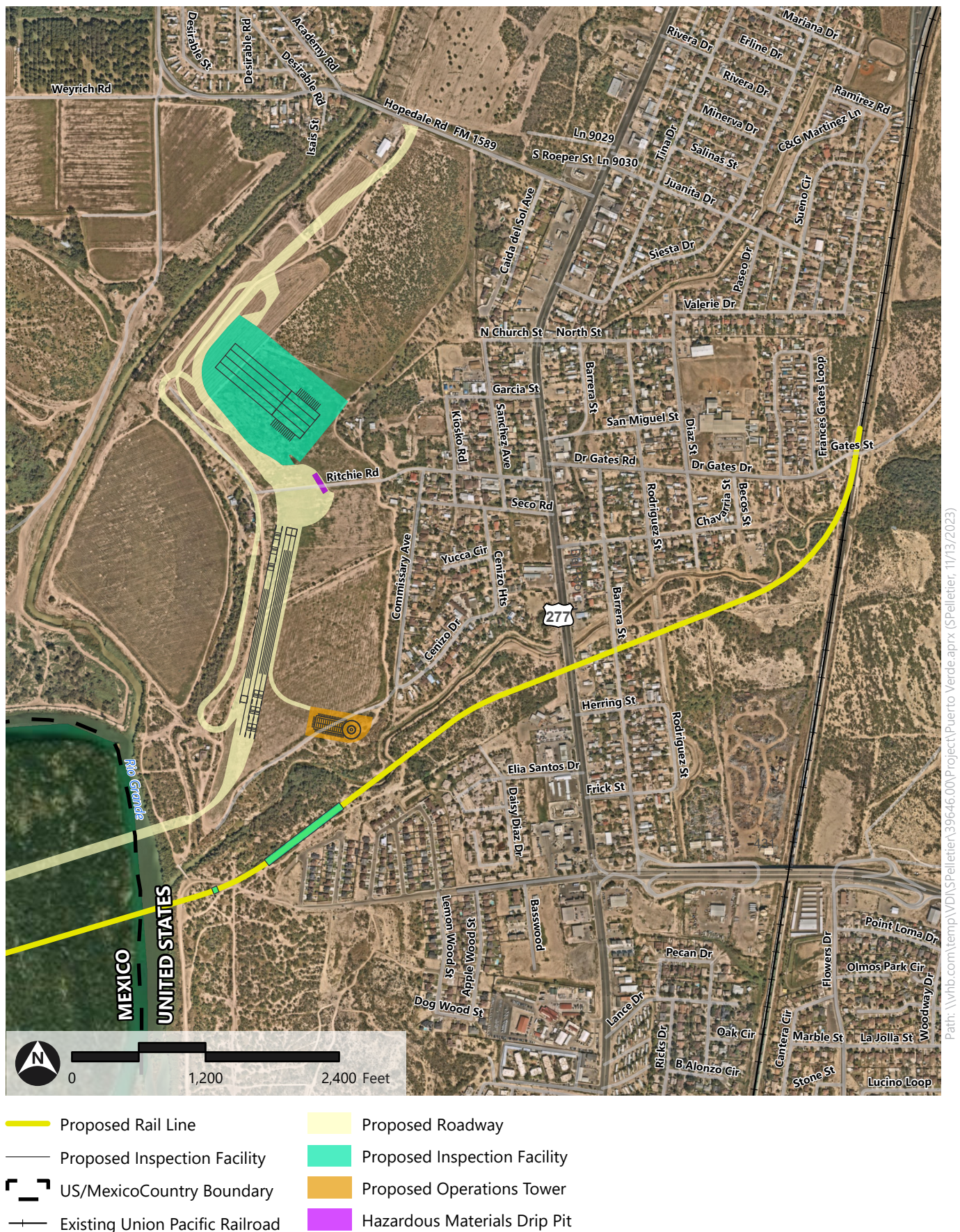
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December 7, 2023

Danny MaGee
City Engineer & Floodplain Administrator
City of Eagle Pass
1100 Eidson Road
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at dmagee@eaglepasstx.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Danny MaGee:

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The proposed rail line would be part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas, United States. The corridor would include the rail line, a 1.3-mile roadway for commercial trucks, inspection facilities for the rail line and roadway, and a control tower that would service both the roadway and rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 2 Project Overview). This project is intended to alleviate the existing congestion at the current border crossing at Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass and to facilitate international trade between Mexico and the United States. A variety of commodities including, but not limited to, beer, vehicles, corn, chemical compounds, and plastics, would move to and from Mexico over the proposed rail line.

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As part of the proposed project, inspection and operations facilities would be constructed for the new rail line and new roadway, including radiation portal monitors, truck scales, non-intrusive inspection facilities, secondary inspection facilities, truck queue area, primary booths, and hazardous materials emergency drip pits. These inspection facilities would be constructed according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requirements. Once constructed, CBP would operate the inspection services and the facilities would either be leased; ownership of the facilities would be transferred to the General Services Administration; or the inspection facilities would be operated as a privately owned Central Examination Station as outlined in 19 C.F.R. Part 118. The rail line and roadway bridges across the Rio Grande River would have one in-water bridge support each.

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Andrea Poole
Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 36652
395 E Street SW

Washington, DC 20423

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Danielle Gosselin

Director

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Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

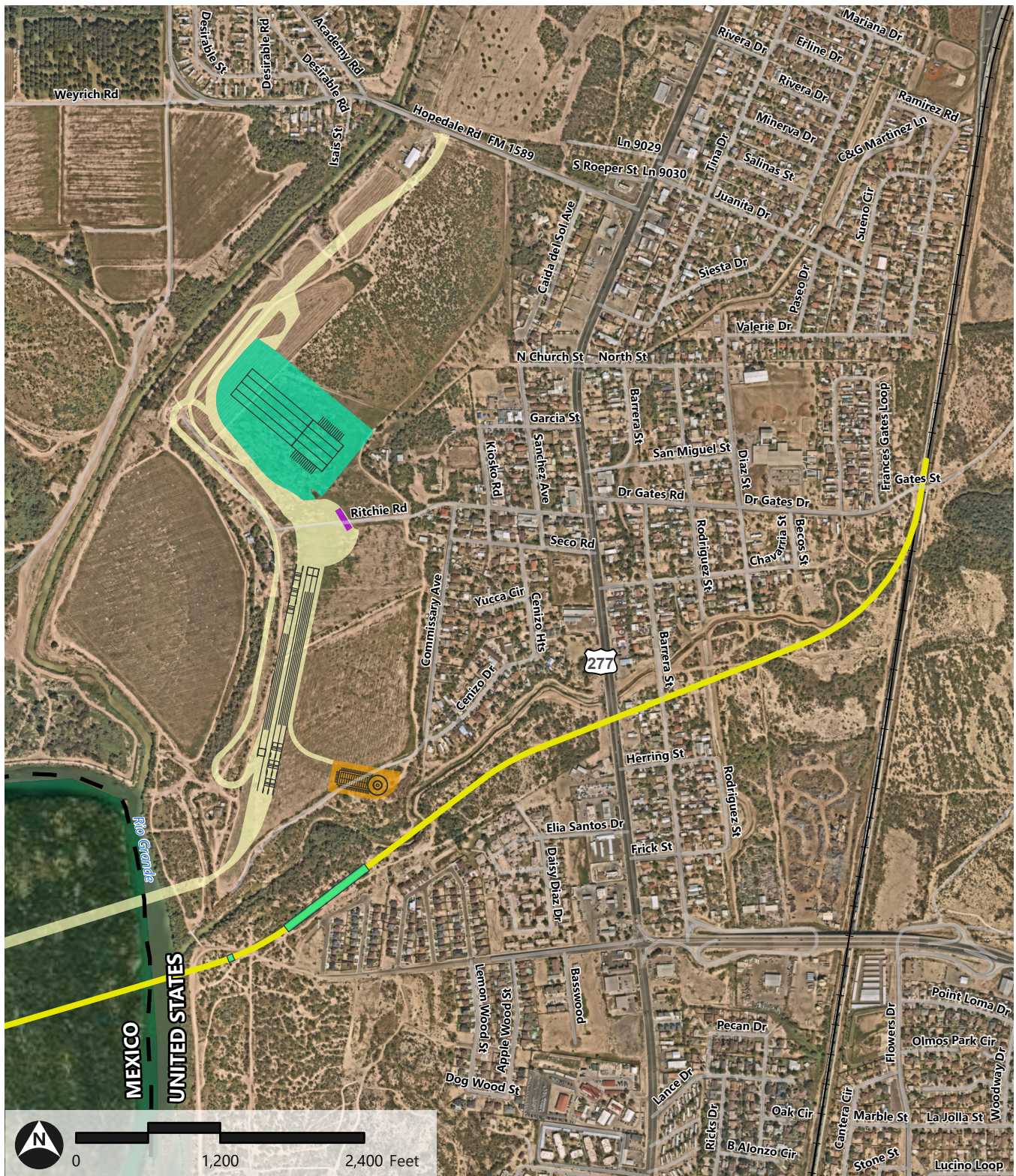
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



 Proposed Rail Line	 Proposed Roadway
 Proposed Inspection Facility	 Proposed Inspection Facility
 US/Mexico Country Boundary	 Proposed Operations Tower
 Existing Union Pacific Railroad	 Hazardous Materials Drip Pit

Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

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Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Federico Garza
Chief of Police
City of Eagle Pass
489 South Monroe Street
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at federico.garza@eaglepasstx.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Chief Garza:

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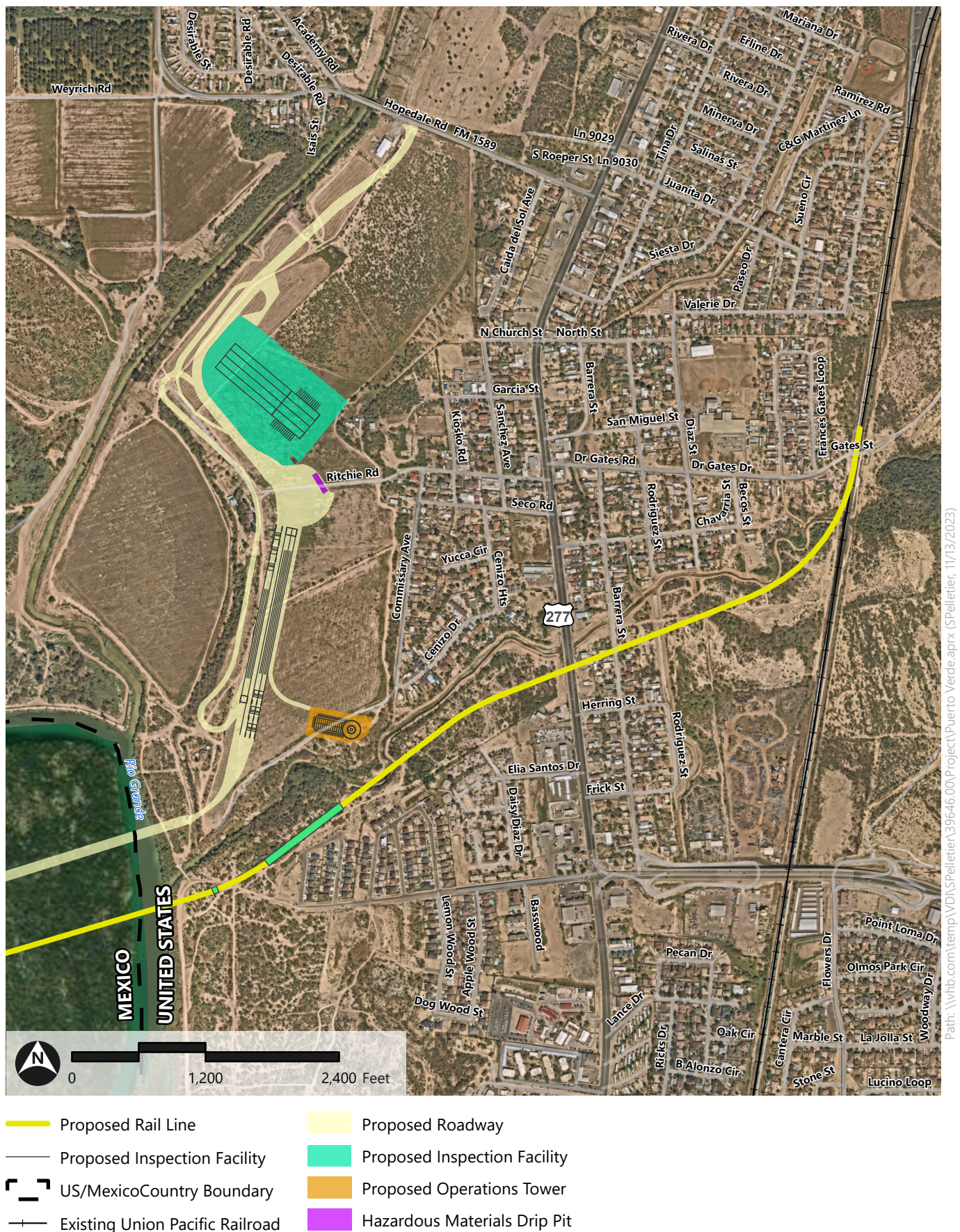
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Daniel Ibarra
Public Works Director
City of Eagle Pass
1100 Eidson Road
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at daniel.ibarra@eaglepasstx.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Daniel Ibarra:

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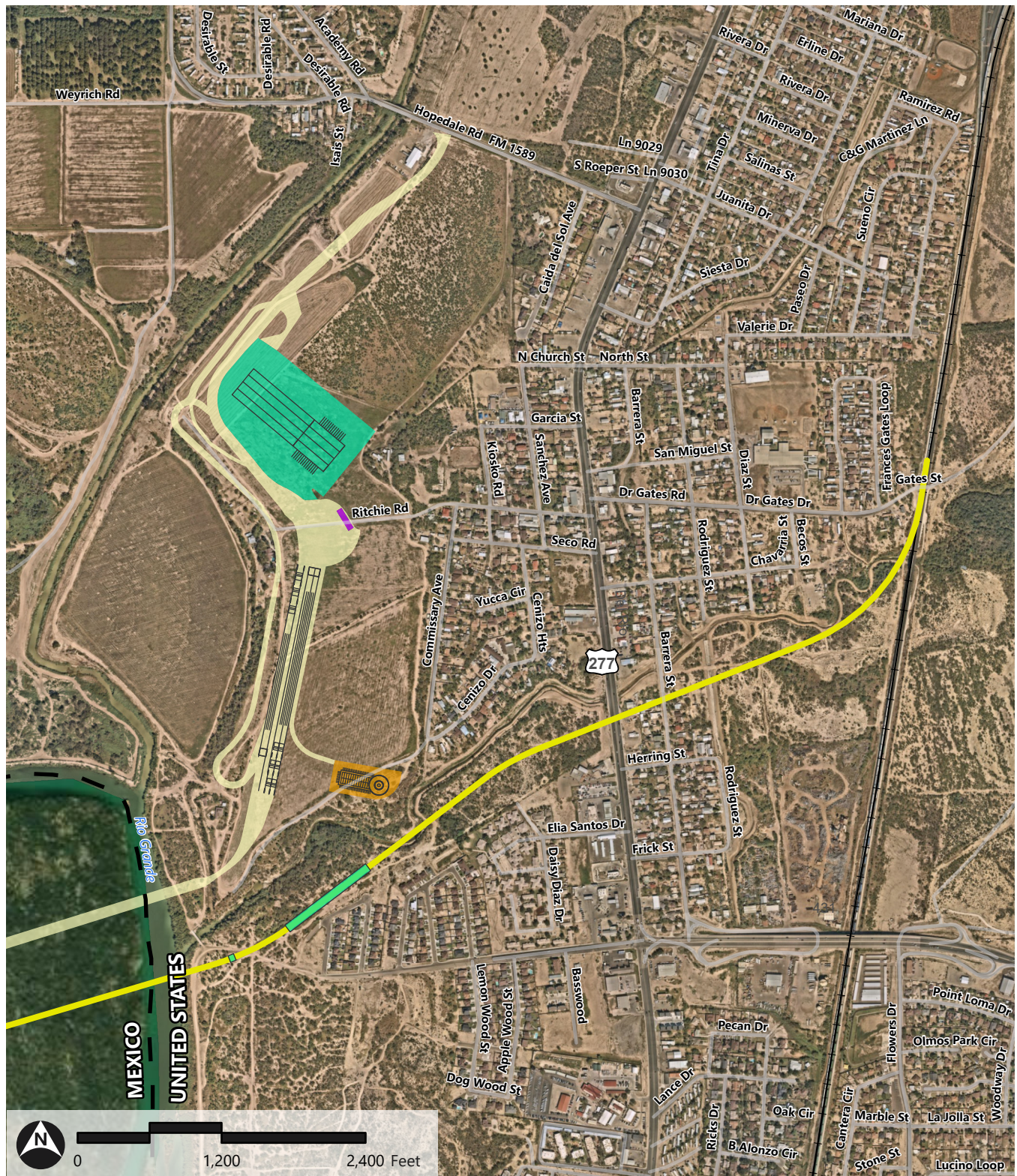
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Robert Houston
Staff Director
Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment
EPA Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270

By email at houston.robert@epa.gov

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Danielle Gosselin

Director

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Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

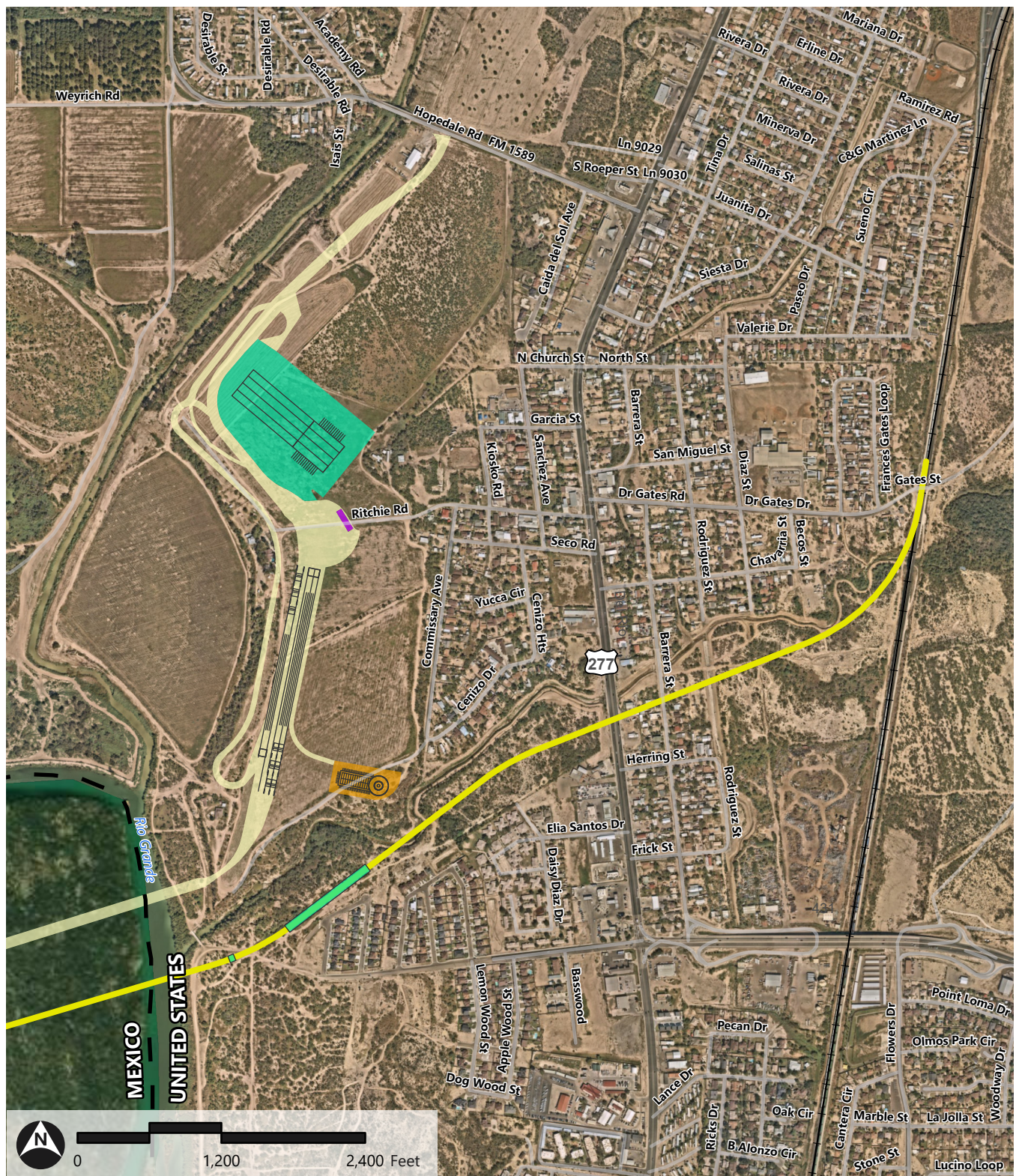
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Tony Robinson
Regional Administrator, Region 6
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FRC 800 North Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209

By email at tony.robinson@fema.dhs.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Consultation**

Tony Robinson:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, (NHPA). Pursuant to NEPA, NHPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. OEA is currently gathering information about the project and is requesting your input to assist us in determining the appropriate scope and level of the environmental review.

Project Description

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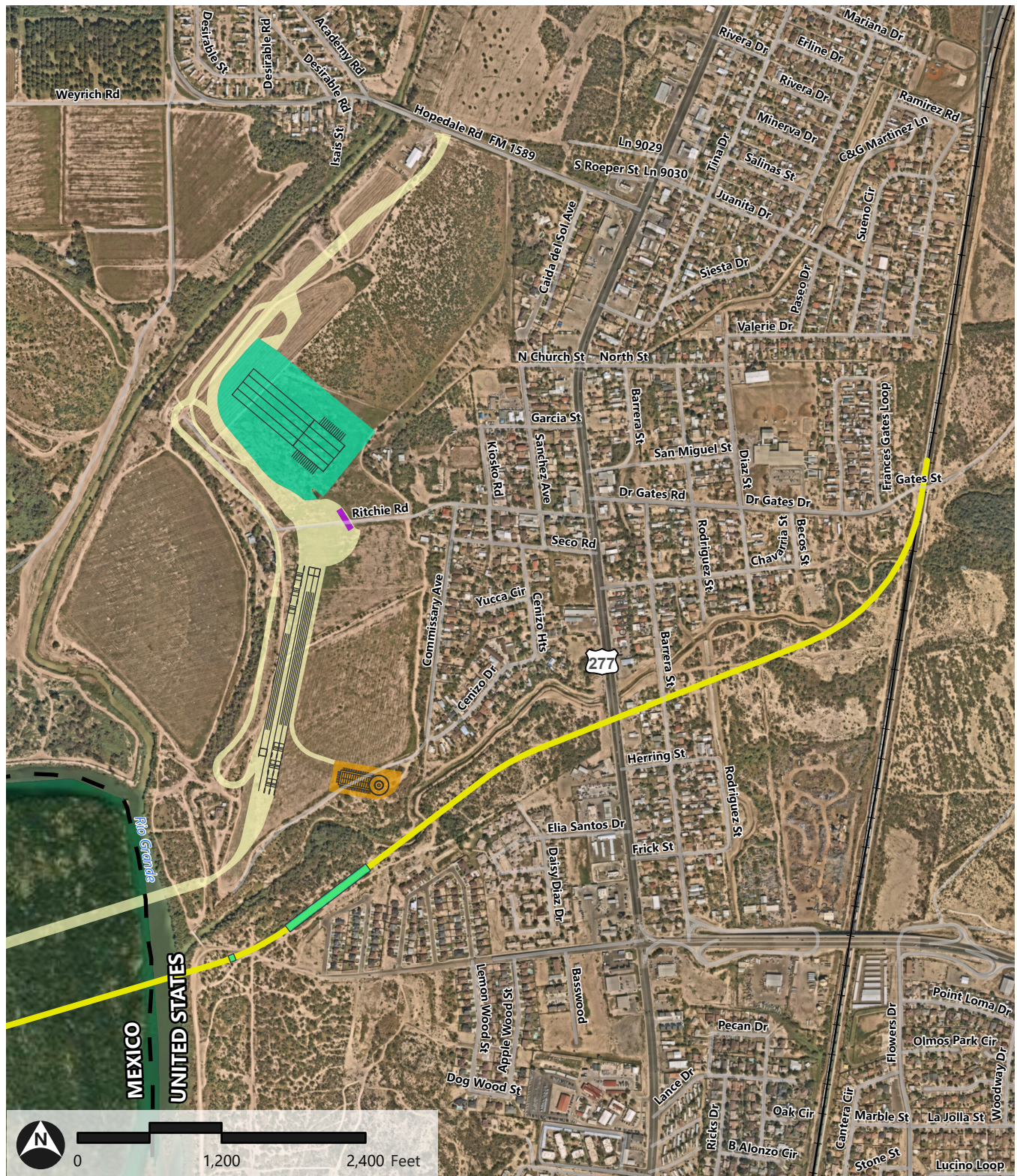
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Mark Havens
Chief Clerk
Texas General Land Office
P.O. Box 12873, Room 942B
Austin, TX 78711-2874

By email at mark.havens@glo.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Mark Havens:

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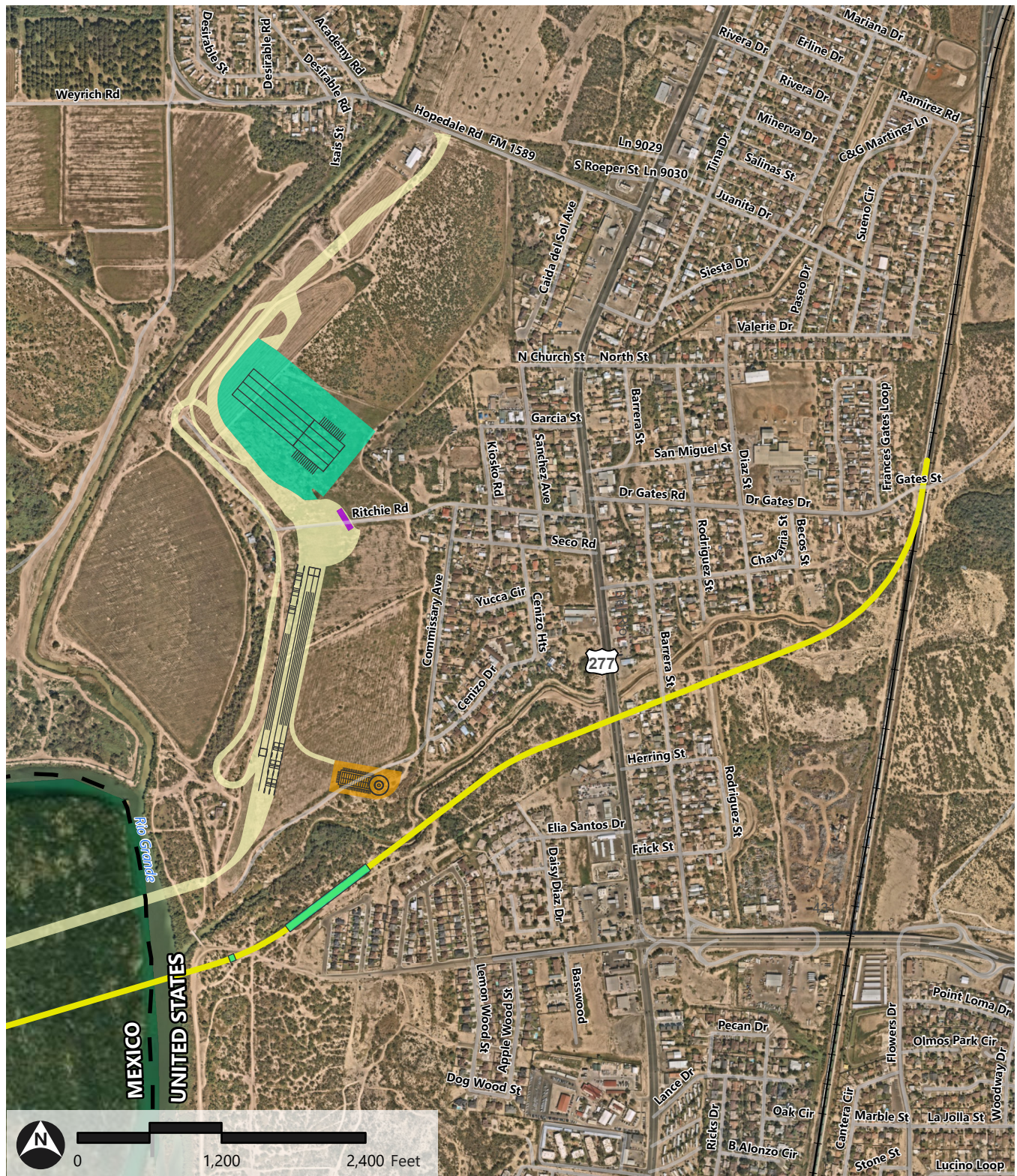
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December 7, 2023

Zuleika Morales-Romero
Field Office Director, San Antonio Field Office
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
615 East Houston Street, Suite 347
San Antonio, TX 78205-2001

By email at TX_Webmanager@hud.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Zuleika Morales-Romero:

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Danielle Gosselin

Director

Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures:

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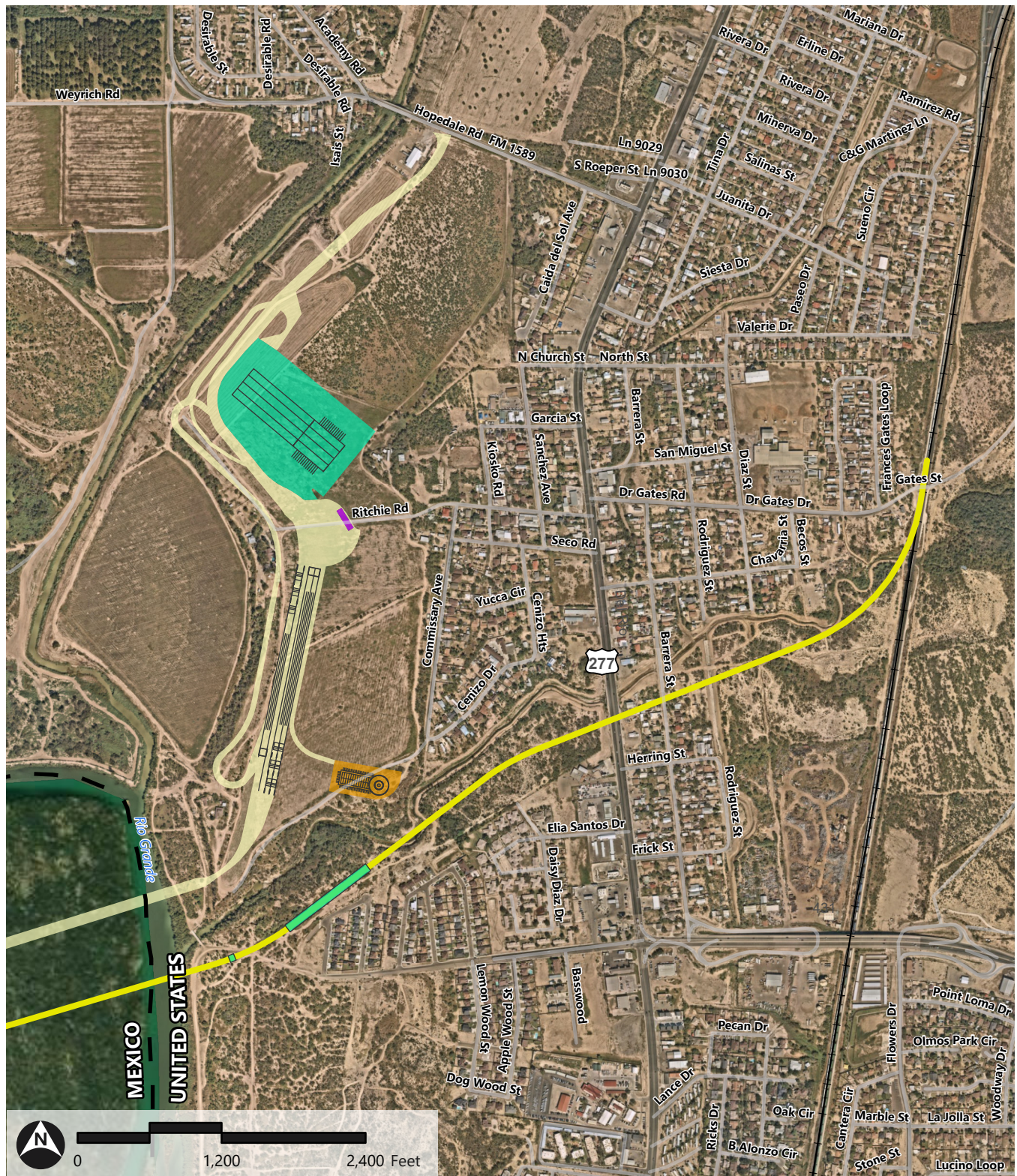
Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

Figure 1: Project Overview



- Border Crossing Location
- Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH) Proposed International Commercial Transportation Corridor

Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



- Proposed Rail Line
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Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Rex McBeath
Maverick County Floodplain Administrator
500 Quarry Street
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at rex.mcbeath@co.maverick.tx.us

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Rex McBeath:

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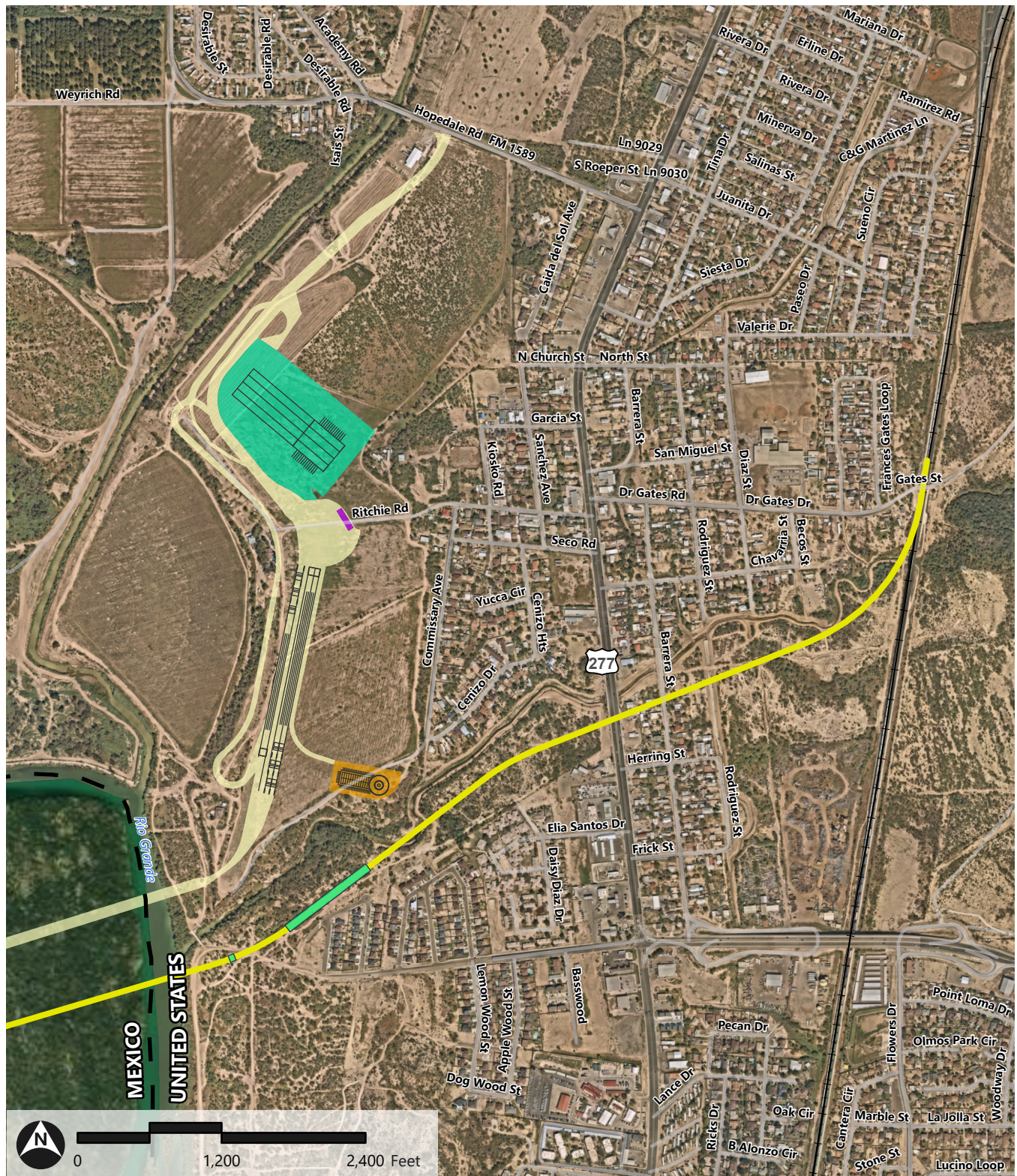
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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December 7, 2023

Monica Cruz
Planning Director
Maverick County Planning Department
500 Quarry Street
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at planning@co.maverick.tx.us

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Monica Cruz:

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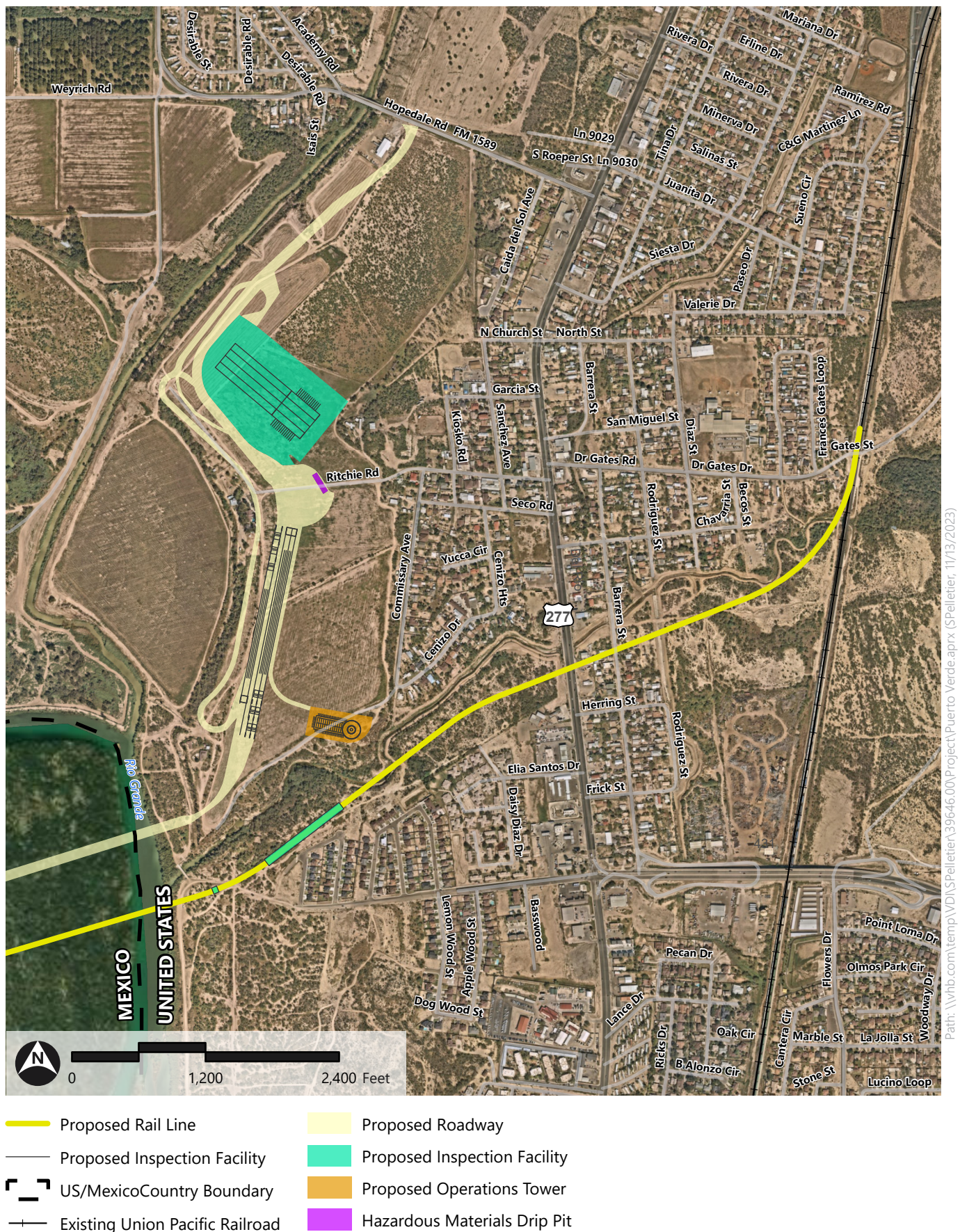
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Sheriff Tom Schmerber
Maverick County Sheriff's Department
1051 Balboa-Jones Boulevard
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

By email at sheriff@maverickcountysheriff.com

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Danielle Gosselin

Director

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Enclosures:

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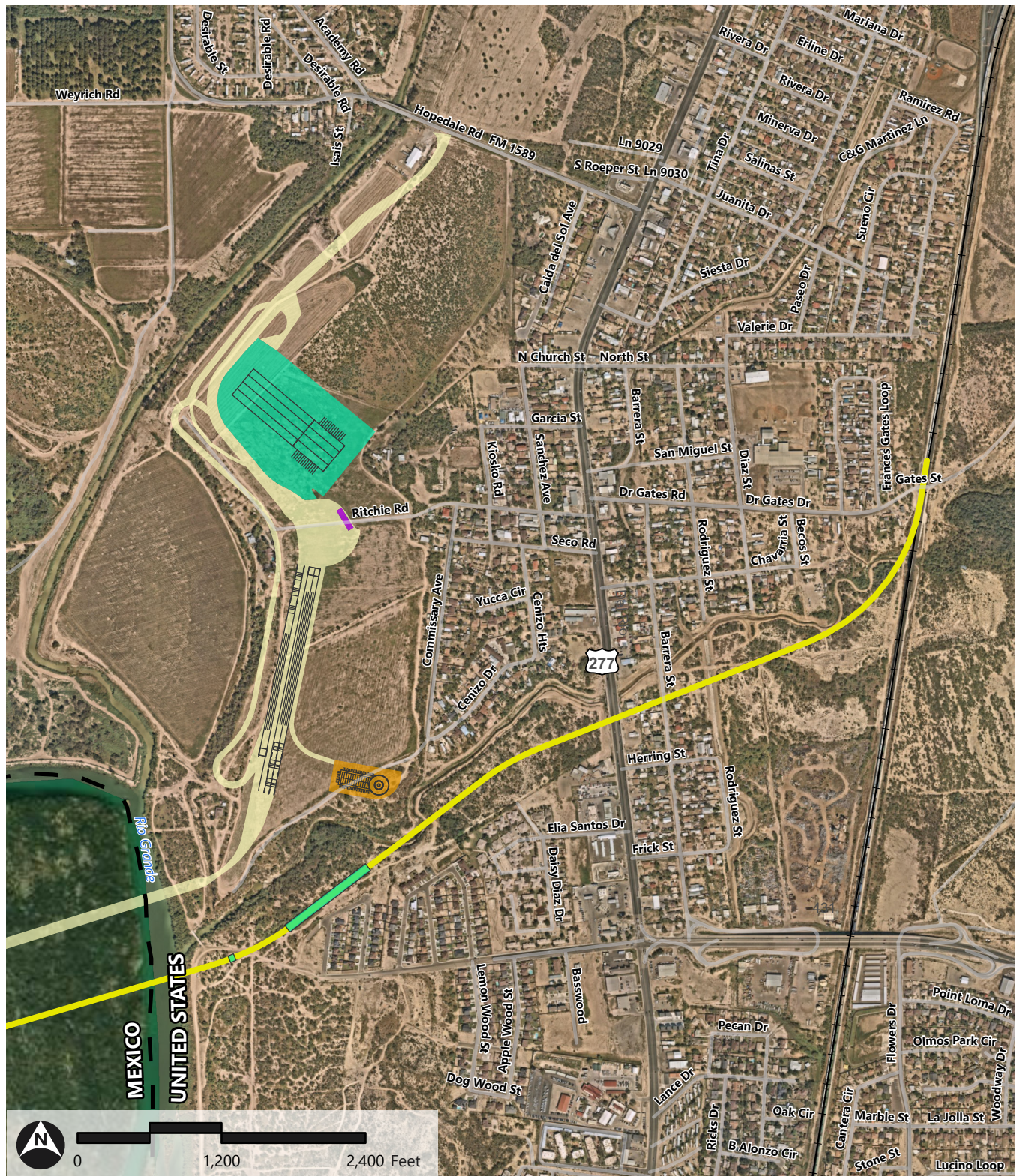
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Juliana Blackwell
Director, National Geodetic Survey
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

By email at juliana.blackwell@noaa.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Consultation**

Juliana Blackwell:

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Project Description

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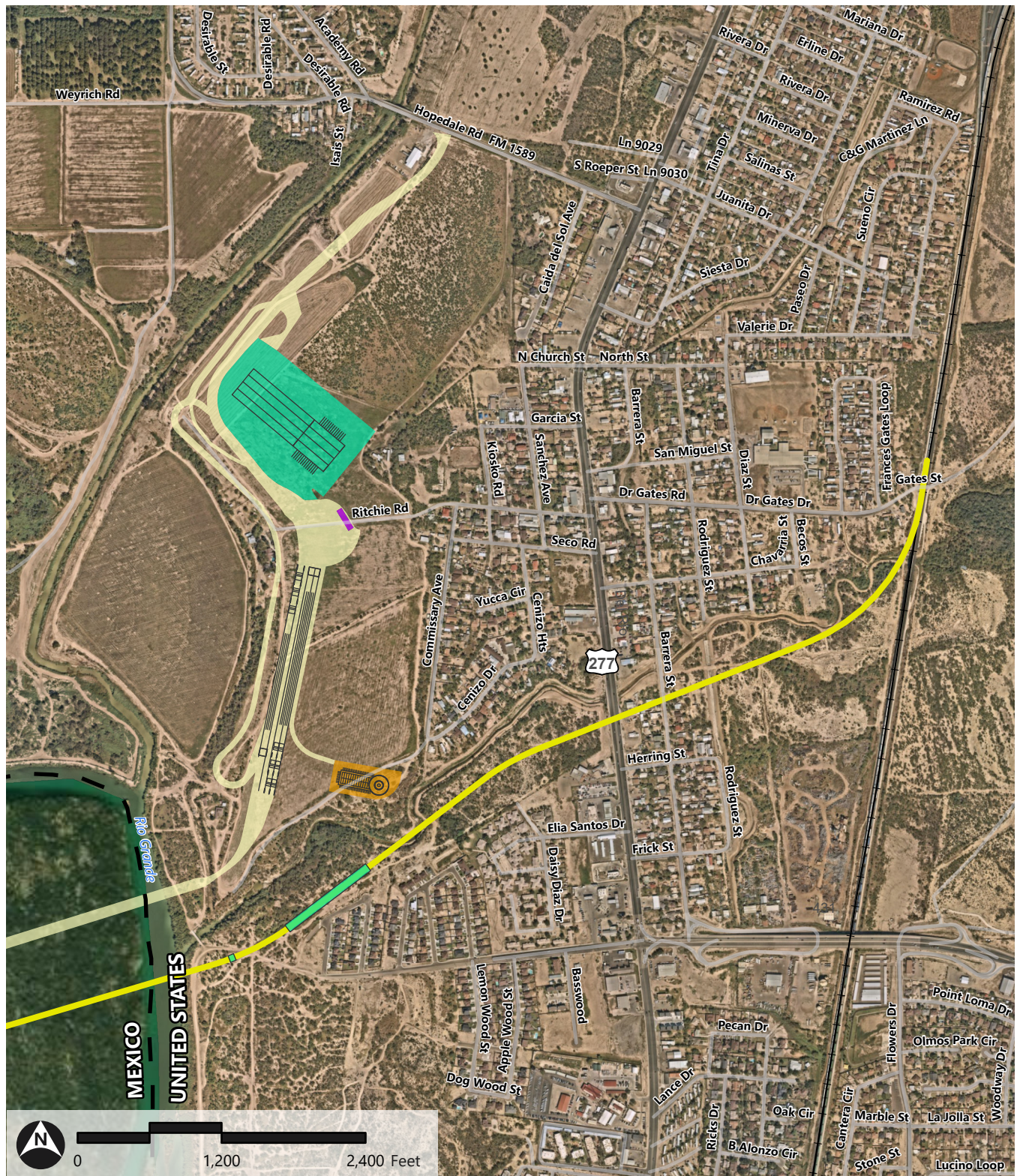
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December 7, 2023

Christi Craddick
Chairman
The Railroad Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress
Austin, TX 78701

By email at Christi.Craddick@rrc.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Chairman Craddick:

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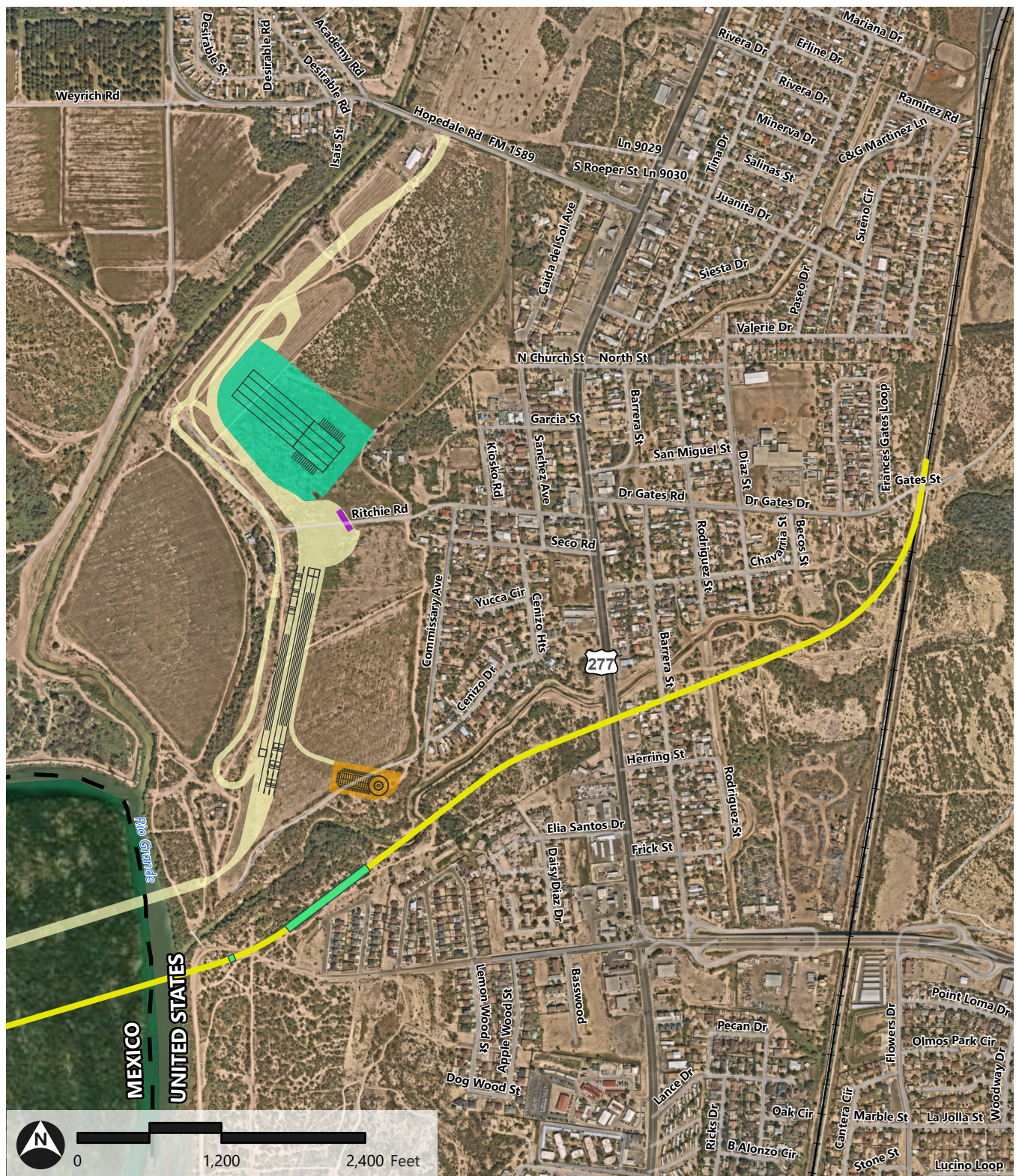
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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December 7, 2023

Steven Schar
Acting Deputy Executive Director/Chief of Staff
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
12100 Park 35 Circle
Austin, TX 78753

By email at steven.schar@tceq.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Steven Schar:

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Andrea Poole
Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 36652
395 E Street SW

Washington, DC 20423

We look forward to hearing from your agency. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a call, please feel free to contact Andrea Poole of my staff at 202-934-3330 (cell) or by email at Andrea.Poole@stb.gov.

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Danielle Gosselin

Director

Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Maps

Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

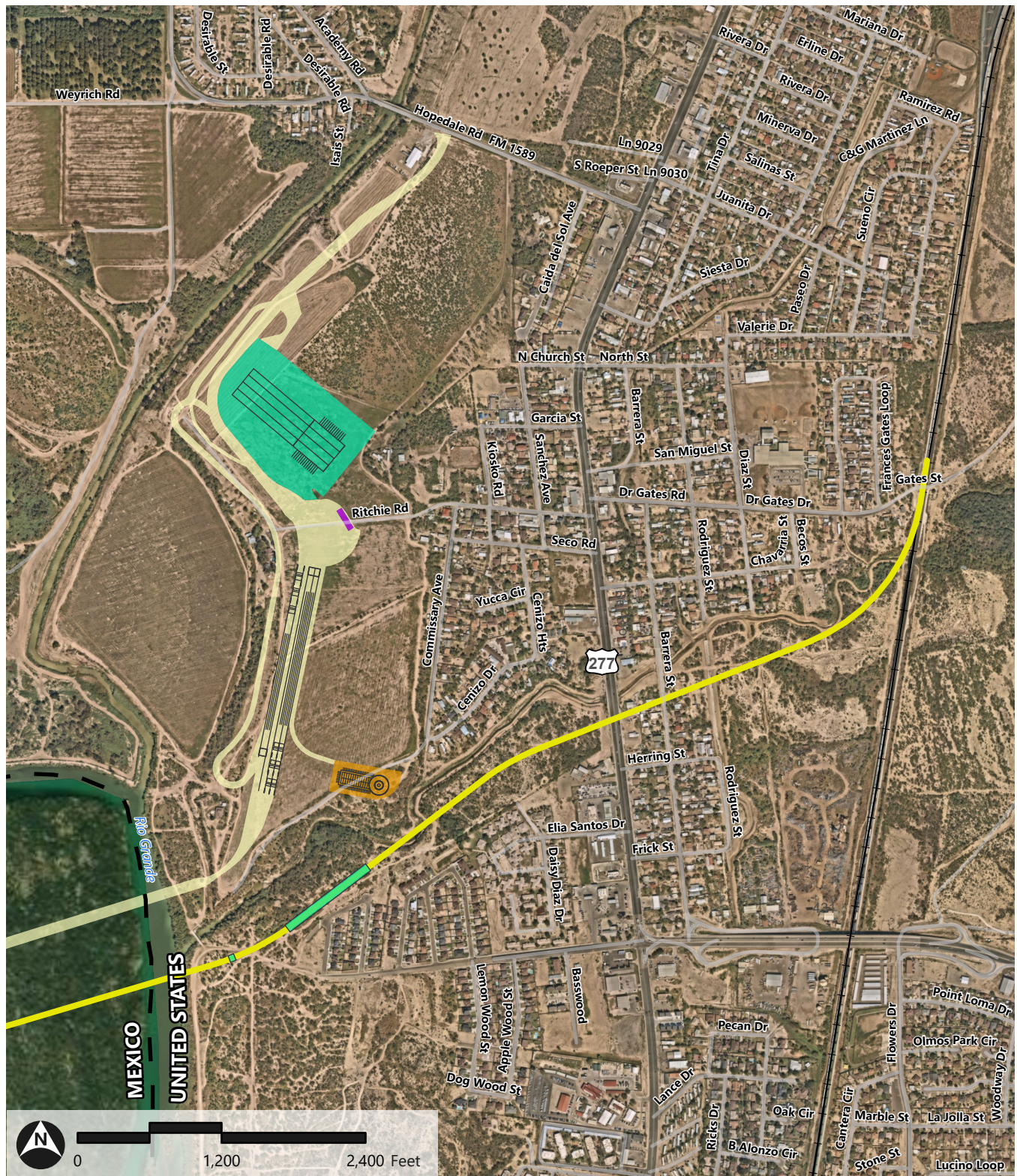
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- Border Crossing Location
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas



- Proposed Rail Line
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

David Veale
District Leader
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
P.O. Box 1151
Pleasanton, TX 78064

By email at David.Veale@tpwd.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

David Veale:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108, (NHPA). Pursuant to NEPA, NHPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. OEA is currently gathering information about the project and is requesting your input to assist us in determining the appropriate scope and level of the environmental review.

Project Description

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

The proposed rail line would be part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas, United States. The corridor would include the rail line, a 1.3-mile roadway for commercial trucks, inspection facilities for the rail line and roadway, and a control tower that would service both the roadway and rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 2 Project Overview). This project is intended to alleviate the existing congestion at the current border crossing at Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass and to facilitate international trade between Mexico and the United States. A variety of commodities including, but not limited to, beer, vehicles, corn, chemical compounds, and plastics, would move to and from Mexico over the proposed rail line.

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Request for Comments

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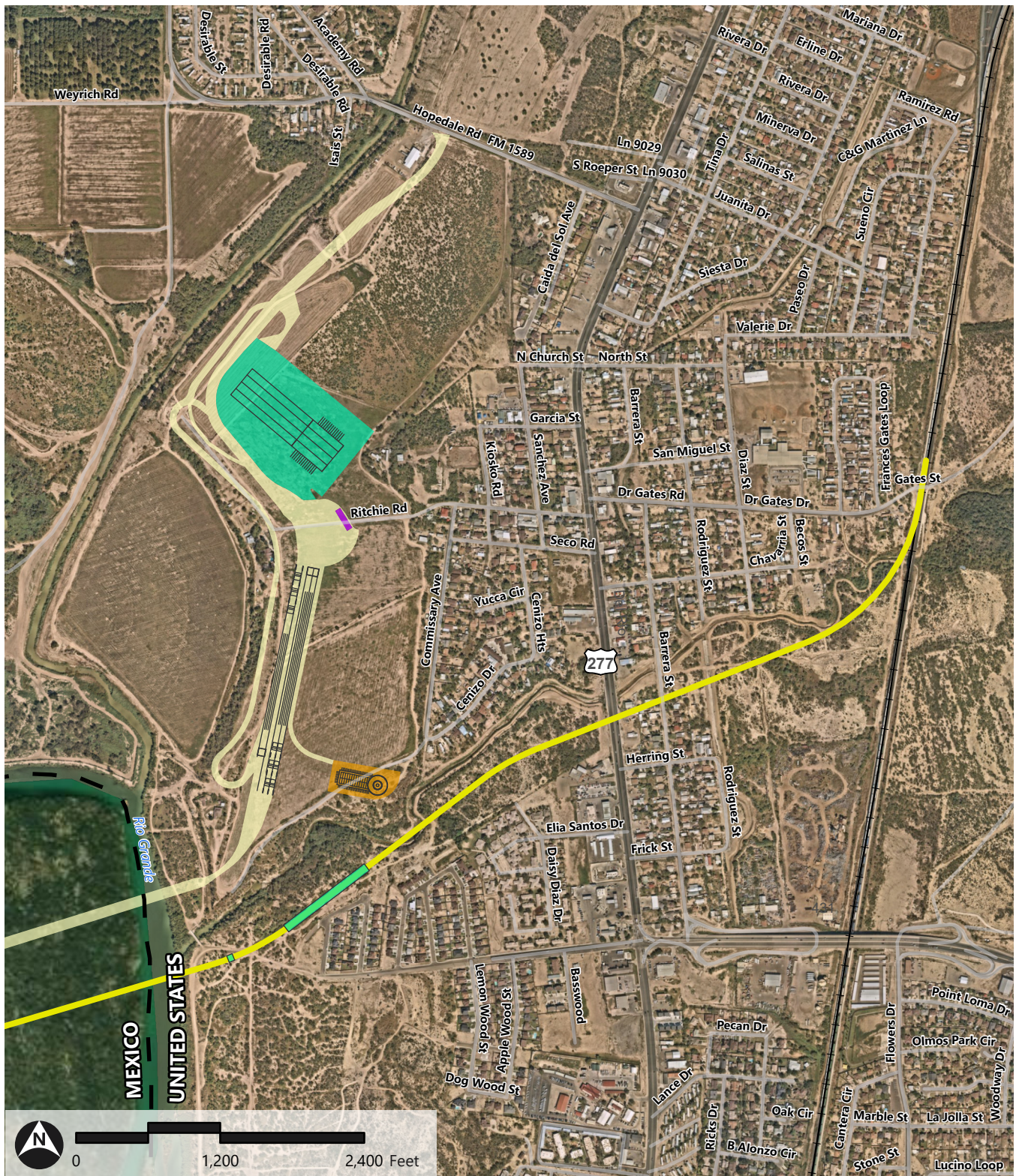
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 8, 2023

Russell Hooten
Habitat Assessment Biologist
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
TAMU-CC, 6300 Ocean Drive, NRC Suite 2501, Unit 5846
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

By email at Russell.Hooten@tpwd.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Consultation**

Russell Hooten:

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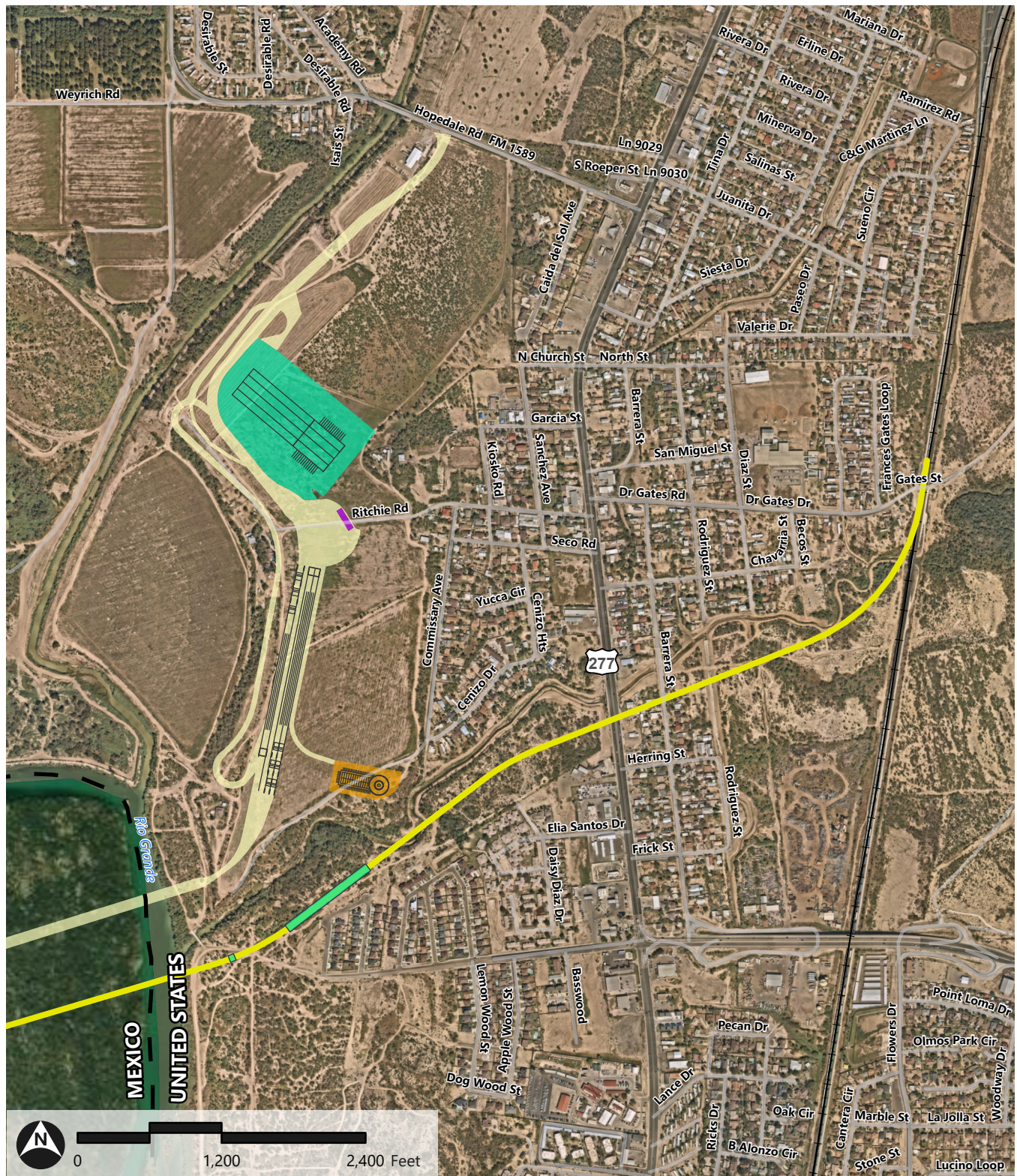
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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 11, 2023

Mark Lambert
Deputy Director of Archives and Records
Texas General Land Office
P.O. Box 12873, Room 131A
Austin, TX 78711

By email at mark.lambert@glo.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

Mark Lambert:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA). Pursuant to NEPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

OEA is beginning the process of gathering information on the project area and project-related issues and concerns. As part of the process, the Board must evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on historic properties, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108 (NHPA), the Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 C.F.R. Part 800, and the Board's environmental regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105. As part of the NEPA and Section 106 processes, OEA is requesting your initial comments regarding the potential for the proposed project to affect historical, architectural, archaeological, or other historic properties that may be in the project area.

Project Background

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in

Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

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Request for Comments

OEA requests that you provide information regarding the potential effects of the proposed project. Please submit your response within 30 days so that we may begin the process of identifying historic resources and start to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project. To submit a response, select "File an Environmental Comment" on the Board's website at www.stb.gov (below the "Need Assistance?" button). Please make sure to refer to Docket No. FD 36652 in all correspondence, including e-filings, addressed to the Board. Brief comments can be typed in the comment field provided, and lengthier comments can be attached as Word, Adobe Acrobat, or other file formats.

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Surface Transportation Board, OEA
Docket No. FD 36652
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

We look forward to hearing from your agency. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a call or meeting, please feel free to contact Andrea Poole of my staff at 202-934-3330 (cell) or by email at Andrea.Poole@stb.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle Gosselin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Danielle" and last name "Gosselin" clearly distinguishable.

Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure:
Attachment 1: Maps
Attachment 2: Initial Agency and Tribal Distribution List

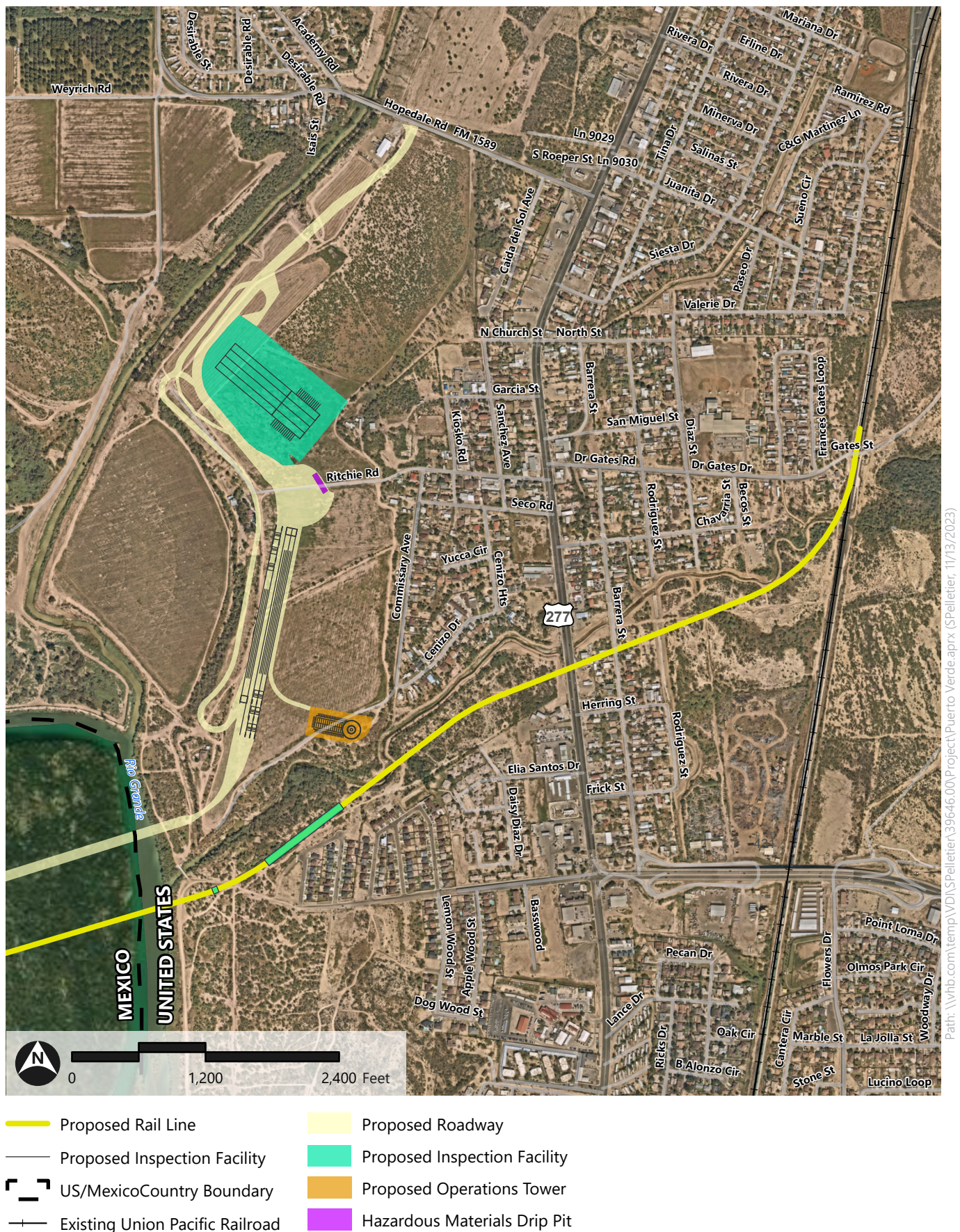
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- Border Crossing Location
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Figure 2: Project Overview - Maverick County, Texas





SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

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**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
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Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 11, 2023

Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78701

By email at Mark.wolfe@thc.texas.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

Mark Wolf:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA). Pursuant to NEPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.

OEA is beginning the process of gathering information on the project area and project-related issues and concerns. As part of the process, the Board must evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on historic properties, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 306108 (NHPA), the Section 106 implementing regulations at 36 C.F.R. Part 800, and the Board's environmental regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105. As part of the NEPA and Section 106 processes, OEA is requesting your initial comments regarding the potential for the proposed project to affect historical, architectural, archaeological, or other historic properties that may be in the project area.

Project Background

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in

Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

The proposed rail line would be part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas, United States. The corridor would include the rail line, a 1.3-mile roadway for commercial trucks, inspection facilities for the rail line and roadway, and a control tower that would service both the roadway and rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 2 Project Overview). This project is intended to alleviate the existing congestion at the current border crossing at Piedras Negras and Eagle Pass and to facilitate international trade between Mexico and the United States. A variety of commodities including, but not limited to, beer, vehicles, corn, chemical compounds, and plastics, would move to and from Mexico over the proposed rail line.

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Initiation of Section 106 Consultation

OEA would like to initiate consultation with your office for the project as currently proposed. OEA will define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for historic properties in accordance with 36 C.F.R. Part 800 and 49 C.F.R. Part 1105.8. The proposed APE once defined, will include the entirety of the project where ground disturbance is expected to occur, a buffer to account for refinements to the alignment or construction methods, access roads, staging, and potential visual and auditory effects that may occur beyond the limits of disturbance. The APE will be further refined as additional information about the proposed project and its potential to affect cultural resources becomes available.

Request for Comments

OEA requests that you provide information regarding the potential effects of the proposed project. Please submit your response within 30 days so that we may begin the process of identifying historic properties and start to evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project. To submit a response, select "File an Environmental Comment" on the Board's website at www.stb.gov (below the "Need Assistance?" button). Please make sure to refer to Docket No. FD 36652 in all correspondence, including e-filings, addressed to the Board. Brief comments can be typed in the comment field provided, and lengthier comments can be attached as Word, Adobe Acrobat, or other file formats.

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Director
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Enclosure:

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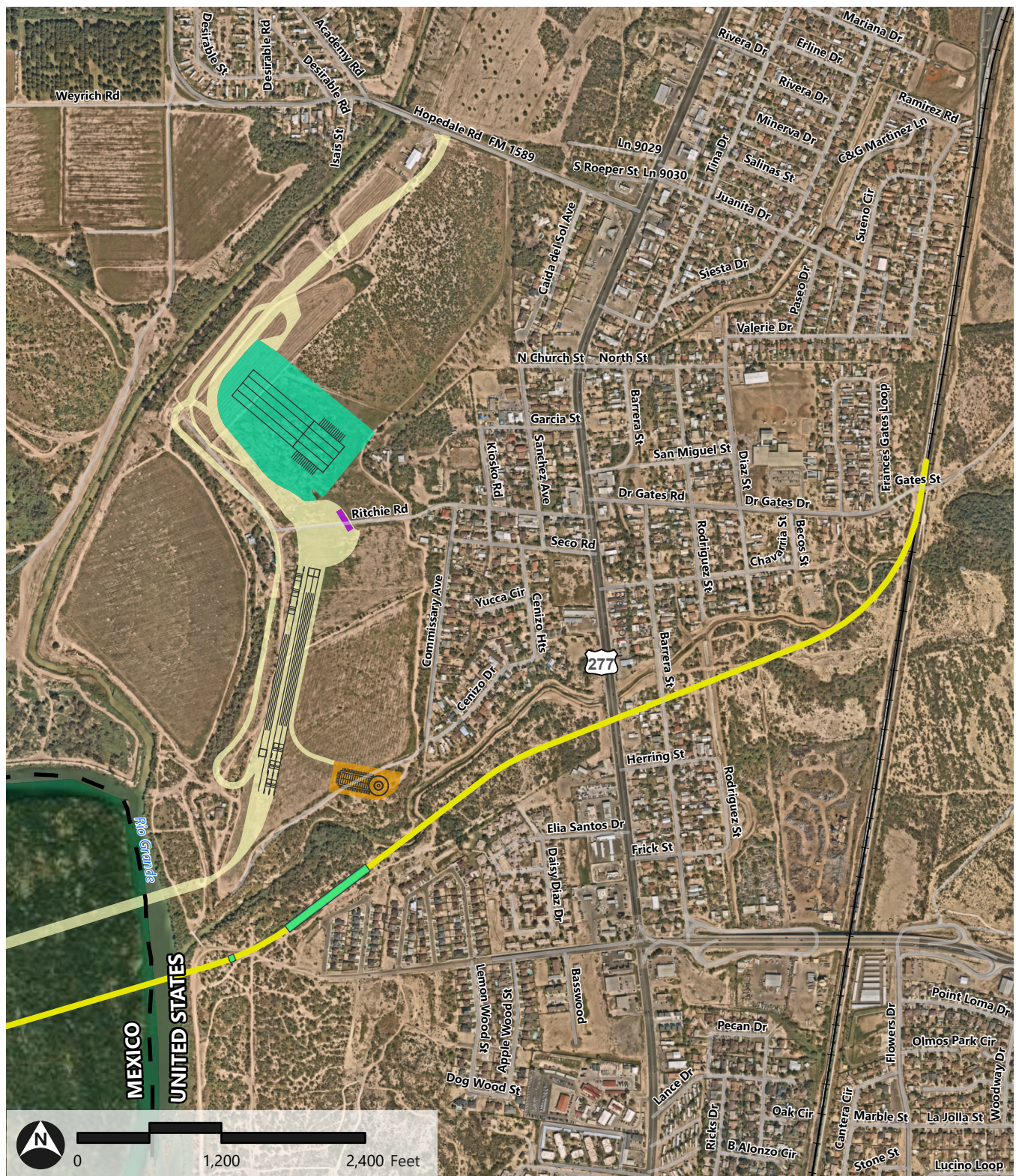
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Source: ArcGIS Online, NearMap

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

December 7, 2023

Christina Williams
Division Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1505 Ferguson Land
Austin, TX 78754

By email at christina_williams@fws.gov

**RE: Docket No. FD 36652, Green Eagle Railroad – Construction and Operation
Exemption – Line of Railroad in Maverick County, Texas; Preliminary
Consultation**

Christina Williams:

Green Eagle Railroad, LLC (GER) is planning to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate a new railroad line in Maverick County, Texas, as part of an international commercial transportation corridor between Mexico and the United States. As part of its licensing process, the Board will conduct an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4370m-11, (NEPA). Pursuant to NEPA, related environmental laws, and the Board's environmental rules at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will prepare appropriate environmental documentation that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. OEA is beginning the process of gathering information on the project area and project-related issues and concerns. We are writing to you to ask you for information on any environmental resources that the proposed project may affect and request your comments.

Project Description

GER, owned by Puerto Verde Holdings (PVH), is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate approximately 1.3 miles of new double-tracked rail line in Maverick County, Texas. The rail line would extend from the Union Pacific Railroad's mainline at Gates Street south across a newly constructed bridge over the Rio Grande River into Mexico for 18 miles to a connection with the Ferromex Rio Escondido rail line (See Attachment 1: Figure 1 Project Overview map).

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Initiation of Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

The Board must evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed project on federally listed threatened and endangered species, in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1536, the Section 7 implementing regulations at 50 C.F.R. Part 402, and the Board's environmental regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 1105. OEA developed a preliminary list of federally listed species that occur or potentially occur in the project area using the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). The preliminary species list includes three Proposed Endangered species - tricolored bat, Mexican fawnsfoot, salina mucket - and one Candidate species (monarch butterfly). The species list also included the Threatened piping plover and rufa red knot, but according to IPaC, these two species are to be considered only for wind related projects. OEA will submit an official request for species list through IPaC, but would appreciate any additional information your agency may have on federally listed species in the project area. OEA also plans to submit a species record request to the Texas Natural Diversity Database to determine if there are any site-specific or site vicinity agency records for any of the federally listed species on the IPaC list.

Request for Comments

OEA requests your comments on the potential impacts of the proposed project. Please submit your response within 30 days so that we may begin the process of identifying the potential impacts of the proposed project. To submit a response, select “File an Environmental Comment” on the Board’s website at www.stb.gov (below the “Need Assistance?” button). Please make sure to refer to Docket No. FD 36652 in all correspondence, including e-filings, addressed to the Board. Brief comments can be typed in the comment field provided, and lengthier comments can be attached as Word, Adobe Acrobat, or other file formats.

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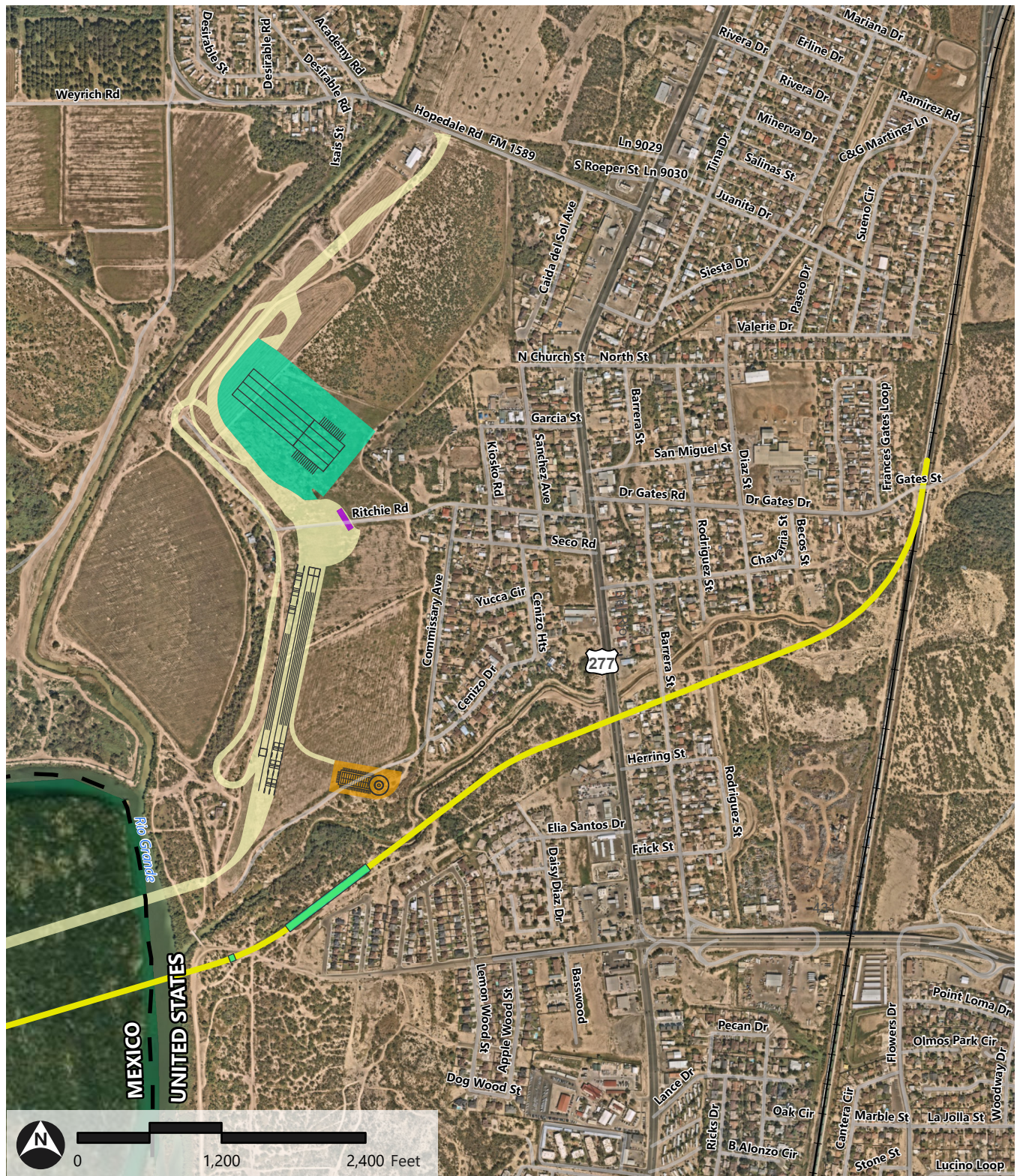


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