

HEI.25852

March 15, 2017

Ms. Diana Wood
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Wood,

We are Erna and Joe Balzen of Upper Quihi in Medina County Texas. Our property is bordered on the west by CR 353, on the south by CR 354 and is directly south of Southwest Gulf Railroad's proposed rail loop. Our grandson's home and property borders SGR's proposed rail loop along his north fence. This property has been in our family since 1881. We are proud of the history in our area and do not want to see the area destroyed. Many Native American artifacts have been found on this property. Some of the local residents signed covenants in 2001 to protect our land. We have been members of Medina County Environmental Action Association since 2000 and have been trying to keep Vulcan and SGR out of this historical area for 17 years.

We appreciate the time and effort done to document the historical, agricultural, and archeological sites in the Upper Quihi Area. We feel the only action to save this Historical District is for Vulcan and SGR to avoid the area and abandon their project.

Our goal is to put the area into the National Historical Registry.

Sincerely,



Joe & Erna Balzen