#E1-2047
RQ

May 15, 2006

Ms. Rini Ghosh
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34284
Southwest Gulf Railroad Company-
Construction and Operation Exemption – Medina County

Dear Ms. Ghosh:

I recently read, with amazement, letters E1990, E1994 and others by the same family as posted on the STB website. It is incredible how self-centered some people can be concerning the proposed Vulcan project and the connected railroad route. Apparently, these people believe they are the only people to be inconvenienced or hurt by this project. Everything was just fine until they learned that a proposed railroad route could cross their property. What about the other people that have heritage land that might be cut in two by a route of a proposed railroad route or have a train run right next to their homes?

Do they assume they (meaning anyone in their family) will never be affected by the gravel truck traffic or the horrible accidents that might occur? It wasn't long ago that a family of four was all killed instantly in an accident with a gravel truck in this area. When will it happen again?

I assume they feel they are far enough away to not be bothered or harmed by the polluted air. They further state that they have an irrigated farm. What will they do when the water use of the rock crusher comes before their needs or perhaps even results in the water level being reduced by so much that they cannot irrigate? What if the water supply becomes contaminated and not fit for human consumption?

I guess they don't care about the history in Quihi----only that **their** land has been in their family for over 100 years. Incredibly self centered.

We did not inherit our land. We, too, are not monetarily rich. We worked long and hard and saved to purchase our property. Because this land was our "little piece of Texas" and a prized possession, my husband cleared the land by hand----no machinery----in an effort to restore it to its' native state with native Texas grasses, plants and Texas Longhorn cattle. So you see we feel we are severely affected by this project, too.

This proposed quarry and its' connected railroad---one would not be profitable with the other---should never be allowed in this area. We don't want the quarry, we don't want the truck traffic and hazards and we don't want a railroad.

Sincerely,

Jacque Conrad
Medina County Land Owner