

#E1-2674
RJ

January 13, 2007

Ms. Rini Ghosh
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
ATTN: STB Finance Docket No. 34284
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Received
1/23/07

Ref: Proposed Vulcan Materials/Southwest Gulf Railroad Rail Line
in Medina County, Texas

Dear Ms. Ghosh:

I am a landowner in the Quihi, Texas area. My family purchased land here just two years ago. The community welcomed us immediately and we instantly fell in love with this quiet, clean, historic place that is filled with courteous and honest people. We seem to all work hard for what we have and we take care of what we have. The notion of some aggregate company trying to come in and build a quarry over our aquifer; polluting our air; blasting near our home sites; and wanting to put a rail line thru our properties is preposterous to say the least.

There seems to be too many questions about the proposed railroad routes Vulcan has presented.

- What kind of impact will it have on the environment?
 - How will it affect the floodplains?
 - How will the flooding affect the farms downstream?
 - How will the flooding affect the Quihi Lake?
 - How will this affect the aquifers and water wells?

- What about railroad safety?
 - How many streams, roads, and driveways will the line cross?
 - How close are the lines to historic sites?
 - How many families will lose property to the rail line?

Please review the proposed routes *carefully*. My community may be permanently damaged by the railroad and most certainly will be damaged by the quarry. The people here will remain to be courteous and friendly, but this wonderful little piece of Texas may be changed forever. Please help us preserve this historic land and help us keep the land safe and clean for future generations.

Sincerely,

Mary FitzSimon
Mary FitzSimon