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Hondo, Texas 78861

Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001
Fax Number: 202-245-0454

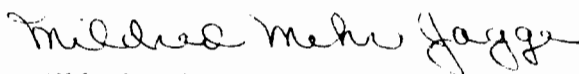
Dear Diana Wood,

My name is Mildred Jagge and I request your help in preserving the farming and ranching history in our area. My Grandfather Joeseeph Mehr received an original land grant in this area in about 1860. Since then many generations have raised families on this land including my husband and I, now my son-in-law and grandson. They continue to farm land which is adjacent to and possibly in the path of the eastern routes of the proposed railroad. This could likely alter their farm very much.

I have come to understand that the eastern routes would intersect double the amount of farms and ranches when compared to the original proposed route. In my opinion the route with the least affected property and property owners would be the best route. Living in this area my entire life and having family settle here gives me great appreciation for history, we have historical buildings of our own. However, I do not support protecting them at the cost of losing our farming and ranching culture. I believe the Texas Historical Commission (THC) can request that the State Board of Transportation, Southern Gulf Railroad, and Vulcan Materials preserve these historical homes and sites the best way possible while still remaining on the original proposed route. I understand the people which the rail may come close to do not want it in their back yard on the other hand neither do we.

Therefore, I would like to request the THC change their position and not support the eastern routes.

Thank you,



Mildred Mehr Jagge

Cc: Rick Perry, Governor of Texas
Larry Oaks, Texas Historical Commission