

AEI-3187
Dtw

September 5th 2007

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S. W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

FAX# 202-245-0454

RE: Finance Docket 34284
Question on Home and Farm Location
6710 FM 2676, Hondo TX 78661

Dear Madam:

If not already a member, I would like to be made a consulting party to the programmatic agreement which is currently being prepared by the Texas Historical Commission.

My justification for this request stems from the fact I have a Texas Heritage farm and ranch inherited from the original Saathoff settlers in Quihi. On this property my mother currently lives in a home that is eligible for listing as an historic home. The Eastern Medina Dam alternate route would adversely affect our home, ranch and farm. The rail line will cause flooding of our home and farm land. The rail line will also divide our farm and land, leaving approximately 35 acres west of the rail line and approximately 285 acres east of the rail line. The only access to the land is from FM 2676 and if a rail line goes through, it will cause us to lose the value of the land as a farm and cattle operation. I am against any rail line in the area and fail to see how they can be deemed a "public carrier" giving Vulcan the right to condemn our land for their private use. If they were a public carrier why don't they go straight to Rio Medina (Mumme's Grain Company) where at least something besides Vulcan's rocks can be carried.

Sincerely,

Curtis Saathoff
7506 Pipers Run
San Antonio, TX 78251
210-684-4989
210-326-1556