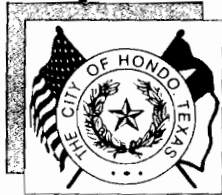


#E1-1812
RG



City of Hondo

1600 Avenue M ★ Hondo, Texas 78861 ★ 830-426-3378 ★ FAX 830-426-5189

December 27, 2005

*Received
1/4/06*

Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
Attention: Rini Ghosh
STB Docket Number FD34284
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. Ghosh:

The construction of the proposed quarry and a short line railroad by Vulcan Material Company in Northeast Medina County should have a very favorable impact upon the economies of both Medina County and the City of Hondo. As Mayor of the City of Hondo and Chairman and President of The Hondo National Bank, I am fully in support of the project. It seems that the benefits of the economic contributions greatly surpass the very questionable environmental concerns being raised by the opponents to the construction of the quarry.

It has been my pleasure to reside in Hondo for over twelve years, to be very active in the business community and to be involved heavily in the community's economic growth. In my recent dialogue with members of the business community I have heard only favorable comments about the construction of the quarry and the railroad. The impacts of around one hundred fifty jobs, a payroll of about one million dollars to the county and the advalorem tax benefits to the county and the local schools all are very advantageous to the local economy.

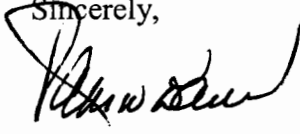
It also seems to be a universal opinion that the installation of the railroad is both an environmental and economic benefit to the area versus the possibility of the hauling of the aggregate by truck which would be more harmful to our roads and to our air quality.

We urge you to complete the regulatory approval action on these proposals and allow Vulcan Materials to finalize the projects.

Page 2 of 2
December 27, 2005
Surface Transportation Board
Rini Ghosh

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. Danner", written over a horizontal line.

James W. Danner
Mayor

JWD/ylm

cc: Commissioner R.B. "Ralph" Marquez
Commissioner Larry R. Soward
State Representative Tracy O. King
U.S. States Representative Henry Bonilla
U.S. States Senator John Cornyn
U.S. States Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Texas State Senator Frank Madla
Medina County Judge James Barden
Medina County Commissioner Beverly Keller
Medina County Commissioner Chris Mitchell
Medina County Commissioner Arturo Barrientes
Medina County Commissioner Kelly Carroll
Hondo I.S.D. School Board President Wayne Stein