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Post Office Box 93
Hondo, Texas 78861

Quihi & New Fountain Historical Society

1 November 2004

received
11/22/04

Ms. Victoria Rutson
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20402-001

RE: Project Review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
Southwest Gulf Railroad Company, Medina County (STB/106) Finance Docket No. 34284

Dear Ms. Rutson:

The Quihi and New Fountain Historical Society was formed to protect the cultural, historical, and archeological sites within the Quihi area. Our group has cataloged some sixty homes and/or sites constructed by settlers of the 1850 era to be included with our application of a Federal Historic District. In our area two important prehistoric Indian sites have been identified, and it is possible more sites are to be uncovered. With these goals and interests, we have been following and digesting the correspondence dated July 20, 2004 from Mr. F. Lawrence Oaks of the Texas Historical Commission sent to you. Up to this time there is no reply to this letter which is of paramount importance to Quihi culture, history, and archeology survival.

Mr. David H. Colburn's letter to you dated May 4, 2004, and Mr. F. Lawrence Oaks' letter to you dated July 20, 2004 indicated traffic of shippers other than Vulcan. Our local organization came to a similar conclusion that the proposed Southwest Gulf Railroad Company (SGR) could have carriers other than Vulcan. We also foresee additional destructive effects to our historical property and Native American cultural artifacts that additional shippers' railroad lines construction would cause.

Certainly the aesthetic value of the historic structures would be adversely affected by additional shippers. It is our belief that the final construction route of the SGR, if permitted, should be located away from the irreplaceable historic and cultural treasures in this area. This is the only sure way to prevent their destruction so that they can be appreciated by future generations.

We urge you to consider Mr. Oaks' and Quihi-New Fountain's concerns and suggestions so that coexistence of the SGR and historical structures can be a reality.

Sincerely,

Necy Schulte
Necy Schulte, President
Quihi and New Fountain Historical
Society

cc: John Nau III, Chair Historical Commission
Albert Hausser, Texas Historical Commission
Henry Bonilla, U. S. Congressman
F. Lawrence Oaks, Texas Historical Commission