

Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

FD 34734
Received 11/19/07
#E1-2937

Re: Southwest Gulf Railroad Co.
Construction & Operation Exemption – Medina County, Texas
(Alternate rail routes for Vulcan Construction Materials, LP proposed quarry
to Union Pacific RR Co. rail line near Dunlay, Texas)

This correspondence is in regards to Southwest Gulf Railroad Routes in Medina County, Texas.

My family's property would be severely affected by these routes; the eastern routes would divide more than twice the number of farms and ranches than the original proposed Vulcan route to the west.

Our land has been honored for over a century of continuous ownership and operation as a family agriculture enterprise. Through generations of dedication and perseverance of the founders and their heirs, our property having been founded in 1890 has been awarded the Texas Family Land Heritage Award in 1993 by Texas Land Commissioner Rick Perry to the Elmer and Ida Balzen Saathoff Family. Dividing this land would destroy the value of this prestigious award to my family and community.

Southwest Gulf Railroad Company's modified Medina Dam route would divide two important portions of land that generate vital income. One tract was recently root plowed and cleared of stumps and rocks to further enhance grazing land for livestock. A considerable amount of time, money, and labor was invested into this renovation, which would be wasted as a result of the proposed modified route. The second tract of land utilizes an irrigation system which would be disrupted by the new route. Without the irrigation system, it would be cost prohibitive to sustain current agricultural operations and would further reduce family income.

Isn't the original Sunset Route of Southern Pacific Rail Line of historic value? It was used to build the Medina Lake Dam around 1911, which predates many of the historic buildings and homes established on the original Vulcan route.

I ask you to please consider all other proposed routes that do not have a negative impact upon my family and neighbors. Please do not destroy or alter the original Sunset Route used to construct the Medina Lake Dam in 1911-1912. This route is historic to my family and people of this area.

Sincerely,

Duane Jungman
1899 Cr 366
Hondo, Texas 78861