

#E1-21146

Auteca Pagueame
Ramon Vasquez
Y Sanchez

Pakawan
Mick Killan

Pa-nam-a Payaya
Raymond Hernandez

Xarame
Linda Jimenez

Pacoa
Steven Casanova
Deceased

Tap Pilam Nation



Date: 10/13/15

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Attention: Ms. Woods

This is to inform your agency about our concerns about STB Docket No. FD34284 railroad spur that Vulcan proposes from East to West in Medina County, Texas for their proposed mining venture. One of our primary concerns is the possible desecration, destruction or replacement of Native human remains, sacred Cenotes (known burials practices in sinkholes by our ancestors) and cultural artifacts in said proximity. These areas were occupied by our Ancestors during pre & post Colonial times and there is a high probability that they will be disrupted during the construction if it's allowed to proceed under its present term. Tap Pilam Nation descendants of the San Antonio Missions & South Texas Rancherias are the same Coahuiltecan people who inhabited South Texas & Northeastern Mexico also refer to as the (Pakawan speakers of hunting & gathering). We seek compliance & adherence to the Federal Laws that apply to NAGPRA of 1990, NHPA, NEPA 54 U.S.C 4321. Coahuilteco Research is a separate entity that was develop by members of our Tribal community for the purpose of Historical, Scientific Research for protecting, and substantiating our oral history with archival records .

Our second concern is, that our experiences with some Governmental agencies in the past wiliness to allow the process of Federal Recognition, and or standing to be contaminated by individuals (claiming to be Indian) who have a personal agenda without showing any proper proof nor documentation that they have existed or continues to exist as a local active Tribal community. There are some individuals claiming to be Coahuiltecan and are attempting to exploit the process and are not associated with us in any form. The Tap Pilam Tribal Community was put through a process Three decades ago by Dept. of Interior NPS, Archdiocese of San Antonio, State of Texas, City of San Antonio, and General Land Office in order to proof that we still are a viable Tribal Community. Since this process to the present our Families have been acknowledged and have repatriated over 200 of our Ancestors at Mission San Juan, Mission Valero (Alamo), and at Fort Hood Comanche Cemetery. It is the responsibility of your agency to ensure that those seeking consultation be of a Federal Recognize Tribe who inhibited or had a historical presence, Lineal Indian Descendant of said remains, or Lineal Indian Tribal communities that have Standing as an Indian Tribal Community that is associated with said Native people. For the Record, we are not obstructionist for proper development as long as they comply with the fore mention laws and to work through this process in compliance of said laws and the true intent of those laws. The Constitution and the Laws of the Land are to protect the rights & religious beliefs of all its Citizens especially those who's life's, Cultural, and Traditions have and continue to be exploited for their own personal gain at the expense of a existing living community.

Respectfully,
Raymond Hernandez
Tribal Council & Cultural Preservationist
Tap Pilam Nation

Honoring and Respecting the Past
Working for Equality and Justice Today
Committed to the Future Generations

