

To: Members of the Surface Transportation Board  
of the U. S. Department of Transportation  
Case Control Unit  
Finance Docket No. 34284  
Southwest Gulf Railroad Company  
Construction and Operation Exemption  
Medina County, Texas

#E1-2813

received  
2/1/07

January 24, 2007

Members of the Surface Transportation Board:

I wish to state once more that I support Vulcan Mining and Materials Company and their plans to develop an aggregate quarry in the northeast section of Medina County, Texas. To move their product from the proposed site to an established rail line, they need the Southwest Gulf Railroad (SGR) to build a new line through a rural area. You are being asked to approve a location for safe transportation of any future products as well as limestone .

Your two-volume Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement , Finance Docket No. 34284, for Southwest Gulf Railroad Company is evidence of your thorough study of various routes proposed for such a rail line. After reading much of the material, I feel it is of utmost importance that your board do grant SGR the ability to build a rail line versus hauling the material by truck.

Some of these routes have more positive aspects than others. The direct route proposed by Vulcan Materials would be the best choice for most persons concerned with this project for the following reasons:

1. This route will affect crossing fewer roadways, providing a higher level of safety for persons travelling FM 2676 and other nearby rural roads.
2. The shortest route will also pass through limited drainage areas, resulting in fewer concerns about flooding.
3. This route would be preferred by many more residents, as fewer people live or have farming and ranching interests in the area of the shortest route. (Many who state they oppose this route do not live or work near there.)
4. Vulcan Materials currently owns a number of properties which lie in the path of their proposed route.

My family has owned property north and northeast of Quihi since the late 1800's, and I plan to make my home there when I retire. I do believe the shortest, most direct route would result in the best choice for the greatest number of persons. Thank you for your consideration of these points of view.

Sincerely,



Lisa J. Schweers  
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