

April 3, 2007

Sterley Jagge
635 C.R. 464
Hondo, TX 78861

Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001
Fax Number: 202-245-0454

Re: Southwest Gulf Railroad Company's proposal to construct and operate a rail line in Medina County, Texas.

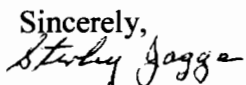
Dear, Diana Wood

My name is Sterley Jagge, and I would like your help in the preservation of the farming and ranching heritage in the Quihi and Bader Settlement area. My father first purchased land in this area in 1938 and I have lived on this property since then making my living and raising a family farming and ranching. I am now retired; my son-in-law and grandson have taken over trying to carry on this tradition. Land which is adjacent to the eastern routes we have farmed for many years. If the rail divides this land it may no longer be feasible to farm.

I understand the eastern routes would dissect over double the farms and ranches, taking much more land than needed compared to the original proposed routes. I also understand the Texas Historical Commission (THC) is recommending the eastern routes over the original proposed route, due to historical sites. Being a descendant to the original settlers to this area I appreciate the history and its value. However, I do not support protecting one to destroy another. The history of farming and ranching in this area goes a long way back. In my opinion, I believe the most direct route, affecting the least amount of land, and using the least amount of energy to move this product would be the most common sense approach. All of our resources need conserving history, fuel, and land. Southern Gulf Railroad should be able to follow property lines and avoid historical sites and still remain on the original route.

Therefore, I request that the THC change their position to not support the eastern routes and work with the most direct original route.

Sincerely,



Sterley Jagge

Cc: Rick Perry, Governor of Texas
Larry Oaks, Texas Historical Commission

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PD-34284
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