



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

#E1-2769
RA

January 8, 2007

received
1/29/07

Ms. Victoria Ruston
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
Washington, DC 20423

Attention: Rini Ghosh
STB Finance Docket No. 34284

Re: Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS)
Southwest Gulf Railroad Company Proposal, Medina County, Texas

Dear Ms. Ruston:

Thank you for the information on the Southwest Gulf Railroad Company's proposal to construct and operate a rail line in Medina County, Texas. Your letter was received by my office on December 15, 2006.

We have reviewed the SDEIS to assure compliance with applicable conformity regulations per 58 FR 63214. Medina County, Texas is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards; therefore, general conformity regulations do not apply and an applicability analysis is not necessary. However, any demolition, construction, rehabilitation, repair, dredging or filling activities have the potential to emit air pollutants and we recommend best management practices be implemented and local ordinances be complied with for reducing emissions so as to minimize the impact of any air pollutants. Further, construction and waste disposal activities should be conducted in accordance with applicable local, state and federal statutes and regulations.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me or Jeff Riley of my staff at (214) 665-8542.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas H. Diggs
Chief
Air Planning Section