

#E1.25842

Diana Wood
Office of Environmental Analysis
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Miss Wood,

I am writing in response to the analysis done for the Southwest Gulf Railroad Company's proposed single-track rail spur in Medina County, Texas. As a resident of the impacted area and minister of the local congregation in that area I have some concerns.

This is a very historic area. Aside from archaeological discoveries of Indian encampments and activity in the area there is still a great deal of evidence in the area of the settlement by Alsatian and German immigrants in this area in the mid 1850's (some of their descendants still worship in my congregation). There are still homes and buildings from the era which are in use and remains of many others.

The running of the rail spur through this area could be very disruptive to any attempt to continue archaeological and historical discoveries in the area. At the very least, the railroad should be required to make every effort to mitigate their intrusion in the area. Further realignment of the proposed route is needed to avoid these historic areas. I ask that this be considered in further dealings and negotiations with the railroad. This irreplaceable historic area should be preserved and protected, not destroyed. Thank you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pastor Stephen M. Schur". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Pastor Stephen M. Schur