

#E1-2646
RJ

January 8, 2007

Ms. Rini Ghosh
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423
STB Finance Docket #34284

Received
1/16/07

Dear Ms. Ghosh

I am writing concerning the above mentioned FD # 34284. I am in favor of any route than no route at all. After all it has been established that trucking would have more of an environmental impact than a Railroad. Although I feel that the preferred route would be a better choice for the following reasons. The preferred route passes through fewer pieces of property. Vulcan owns some of the property along the preferred route. The preferred route crosses fewer streams, roads (county and State) than the other routes. And several property owners along the preferred route including myself have indicated that we would sell to Vulcan.

As for Historical impact, you will find that the whole general area involved along the routes were settled at the same time. At one time there were communities of Bader Settlement, Haby Settlement, Upper Quihi, Quihi, New Fountain, Vandenburg, and Verdina in this general area. Then there is Hondo, Dunlay, Castroville, Rio Medina, to mention a few more.

Thank you for allowing my input and consideration for this project.

Beatrice B. Balzen
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