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RJ

May 20, 2004

Via Hand Delivery

Ms. Rini Ghosh
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20402-0001

**Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34284, Southwest Gulf Railroad Company –
Construction and Operation Exemption – Medina County, TX**

Dear Ms. Ghosh:

This will reply to your May 18, 2004 letter inquiring as to the trucking hours of operation in the scenario, described in my May 4, 2004 letter to Ms. Rutson, in which trucks would operate for 20 hours/day were no railroad available to transport aggregate from the Vulcan Construction Materials quarry to the Union Pacific line. Vulcan advises that, at this stage, no final decision has been made with respect to the trucking hours of operation. Further, any such decision would be made only after further study and, to the extent warranted, consultation with appropriate officials. Accordingly, the best that we can offer on this issue at this time is that we believe that it is not unlikely that trucks would operate throughout the day, with the exception of between 2 pm and 6 pm. We offer this information with the understanding that it will be used for environmental analysis purposes, but also with the understanding that Vulcan is not committing to these specific hours for the trucking operation and will not make a final decision on this matter unless and until developments warrant.

Sincerely,



David H. Coburn
Attorney for Southwest Gulf
Railroad Company

cc: Ms. Jaya Zyman-Ponebshek