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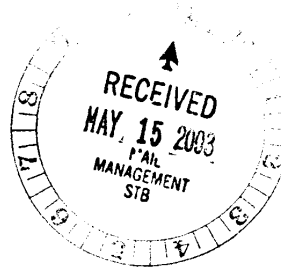
Realty & Development

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

May 12, 2003

MAY 15 2003

Part of
Public Record



Charles M. Sotelo, Broker/Owner

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Finance Docket Number 34191, *Petition for Declaratory Order of Charles M. Sotelo*

Dear Secretary Williams:

On January 6, 2003 we filed for "Reconsideration" of Surface Transportation Board decision to deny our petition for declaratory order and stated reasons why our petition should be reconsidered and granted.

To my knowledge, nobody is contesting our "*Petition for Declaratory Order*" after [more] than four months filed with your office.

We are waiting for approval of our petition for declaratory order by this Board so our first phase of development can take place at Naco Sonora and Naco Arizona. We have a commitment from the owner of the Sierra Madre Express (advertisement brochure attached to this writing) that they will home base in Naco Arizona to start the excursion into the Copper Canyon of the Sierra Madre Mountains. We also have a commitment from the Director of the Deep Sea Port of Guaymas to take tourist that do not wish to go on to the Copper Canyon but wish to stay in San Carlos for a beach vacation until the return trip of the Sierra Madre Express for their ride back to Naco. This project will create much needed jobs cross border and will help in our efforts to provide an alternative to illegal immigration and drug smuggling by desperate people.

Sincerely,

Charles M. Sotelo

CC: Louis E. Gitomer, Attorney for SWKR Operation Co. and San Pedro Trails, Inc.

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Sierra Madre Express

Rail Passenger Service, Inc.

TUCSON • NOGALES • COPPER CANYON • GUADALAJARA • MEXICO CITY

Mexico Office
Balderrama Hoteles
Leyva E Hidalgo A.P. No. 159
Los Mochis, Sinaloa
TEL: 011-52-681-5-39-60
FAX: 011-52-681-2-00-46

Greetings from Sierra Madre Express!

The Copper Canyon of Mexico has become a very popular destination, particularly for the sophisticated traveler who is looking for out of the ordinary travel and adventure. The Sierra Madre Express of Tucson is an American owned and managed company providing rail travel with Pullman service to this majestic and remote region of Mexico.

Travelers with the Sierra Madre Express experience the comfort of rail travel the way it used to be. Our guests enjoy outstanding service from our carefully chosen crew. The train is stocked with food, water, and ice supplied from our U.S. based headquarters in Tucson, Arizona. Additionally, we provide water and ice in the hotels during the overnight stay in the Copper Canyon. Our passengers travel through this primitive region with the confidence of knowing that their travel experience is enhanced by the reliability of American service and equipment. The Sierra Madre Express is the "flagship carrier" of the Copper Canyon.

The adventure to the Copper Canyon aboard the Sierra Madre Express is the subject of a video that is periodically aired on PBS. It may be ordered by calling Acorn Media Publishing at (800) 311-7467. Please specify "America's Scenic Rail Journeys-The Copper Canyon."

The Sierra Madre Express and its journey to the Copper Canyon have been named "the world's most exciting train journey" by the Society of American Travel Writers. To make reservations please call (800) 666-0346. Do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Connie D. Dudley
Director of Sales

SIERRA MADRE *Express*



*The
Adventure Train
To Mexico's
Copper Canyon*

