

Feb 24, 2004

Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



Attn: Rini Ghosh

Re: Finance Docket No. 34284

Dear Ms. Ghosh

In response to the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, I am submitting the following to be considered in the formal scoping process.

I believe Vulcan's proposed quarry and proposed SGR rail line, regardless of where the railroad is constructed, are connected actions, and should be studied in the same Environmental Impact Statement. The study should include direct impacts and alternatives to both projects, including no quarry and no rail line at all.

My name is Jeff Fuchs. I am 46 years old and have owned property in Medina county for a little over 20 years. One of the main reasons I originally purchased this property was because it

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was part of the B.M.A. irrigation system. This system originates at Medina Lake, which is in close proximity to the proposed Vulcan quarry, and makes me very concerned what affect this will have on the water system. Will water be diverted for use at the quarry? Will the dam at Medina Lake be compromised due to blasting at the quarry? Could the water possibly be contaminated due to operations at the quarry?

Also of concern to me is property in Litch that I will soon be co-owner of. This property is in very close proximity to the proposed SGR rail line. This property has a small herd of cattle on it, and is also prime deer hunting area. I am concerned that the rail line would have a negative affect due to the noise created by the train. Also of major concern is the possibility of fires started by the railroad destroying the property completely.

Sincerely, Jeff M. Fuchs

Jeff M. Fuchs
P.O. Box 1028
Lytle, TX 78052

CC U.S. Congressman Henry Bonilla
U.S. Senator John Cornyn
Texas Senator Frank Madla
Medina County Judge Jim Barden