

8523 Braun Knoll
San Antonio, TX 78254

Received 4/13/07
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HEI-2896
Dfw

In regards to: Southwest Gulf Railroad Co.
Construction & Operation Exemption – Medina County, Texas
(Alternate rail routes for Vulcan Construction Materials, LP proposed quarry
to Union Pacific RR Co. rail line near Dunlay, Texas)

Ms. Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Ms. Wood,

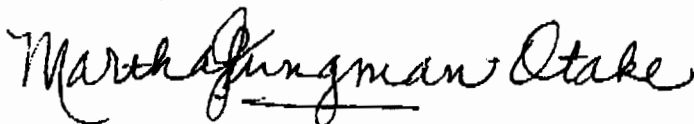
My family's property would be severely affected by using the eastern route (SGR's Modified Medina Dam Route) proposed for the new rail line. Our land was honored with the Texas Family Land Heritage Award in 1993. This means that our family has continuously owned and operated it as a family agricultural enterprise for over 100 years. Our family has taken great pride in this historical award.

One of the eastern routes cuts our land twice—on the north side and the south side. Both of these areas are farm lands which are major feed sources for the cattle on the ranch. The ranch is a major source of income for our family. In addition, the portion on the north side that would be cut is involved in a USDA soil conservation project agreement which my brother and recently deceased father spent much time and effort meeting the strict criteria for.

After reviewing maps of the area, I realized that using the eastern routes would affect significantly more families and their farm and ranch operations. For most of them, this is their livelihood. Some of the neighboring properties that would be affected are also essential to the success of my family's farm and livestock operations through irrigation and flow of rainwater.

My family is committed to continuing the farm and ranch culture we have grown up with and would like your help in keeping it successful. I ask that you please heavily consider using the original proposed route to the west. It would impact less families and properties.

Respectfully,



Martha Jungman-Otake