

HEI-3252

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2047 COUNTY ROAD 351
HONDO, TEXAS 78861

November 15, 2007

Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
395 E Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423
Attn: Diana Wood, Section of Environmental Analysis

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34284

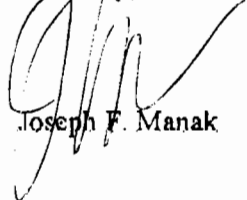
Dear Ms. Wood:

In response to your request for comment regarding your proposed Programmatic Agreement, please be advised that the No Action - Trucking option is preferable to save Medina County's historical and cultural assets. It appears that every proposed rail route enters the proposed quarry through some portion of the Quihi Historical Districts.

I would further suggest that qualified survey reports be conducted on all of the A.P.E. proposed Eastern Routes, Southern Terminus and Rail Loop prior to any project work, including the Old Medina Dam Route (as a modification). The Old Medina Dam route is preferable to any proposed route since it avoids more historical district assets.

I would further respectfully request that the Edwards Aquifer Authority be consulted in regard to surveys of any proposed route due to the obvious impact on the Aquifer due to proposed construction through historical and pre-historic floodplains, terraces, sink holes, springs and miscellaneous Karst features.

Cordially,



Joseph F. Manak

JFM/su