

E1-7059
D7W
FD 34836

Diana Wood
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34836

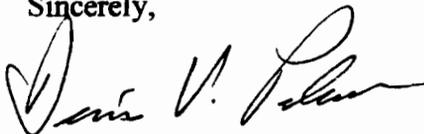
Dear Ms. Wood,

I wish to voice my concern about the proposed railroad line to the new Safford mine. I own and lease farmland in the area of Highway 70 which would be most affected by the new line. I have many concerns about Arizona Eastern's proposal, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Flooding of the land that I farm because of the train's river crossing.
2. The number of acres that I farm being cut significantly by the train and its track.
3. The train crossing Highway 70 using an at-grade crossing.
4. My ability to drive my farm equipment down the highway, as I do now between fields, because of traffic congestion with the train stopping traffic to cross.
5. The devaluation of land prices because of a train by my property.
6. Capping of wells in the trains easement area.

I have not had sufficient time to study the documents sent to me or to seek legal counsel, if necessary, so that I can completely understand the Draft EA and its full impact on my farming operation. I am also concerned that the Army Corps of Engineers should be consulted for any crossing in the Gila River. This letter will serve as my official response. I am requesting at least a 60 day extension of the comment period so that I can make a more educated assessment of the proposal.

Sincerely,



Dennis V. Palmer
VIP Farms