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March 26, 2004

Via Hand Delivery

Ms. Vicki Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20402-0001

**Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34284, Southwest Gulf Railroad Company –
Construction and Operation Exemption – Medina County, TX**

Dear Ms. Rutson:

SGR is providing the attached maps and photos of the preferred route and the three alternative routes under consideration by SEA. The enclosures consist of U.S.G.S. topographic maps and aerial photos of the alternative alignments (including structures). Integrated into the illustrations are recent (February 2004) photographs of known residences and historical structures and their proximity to the individual alignments. The enclosures reflect all structures, as well as ruins, within 1000 feet of each alignment. We will supply larger versions of these maps, which will allow for more detailed examination of the photos, together with a CD Rom that contains the photos, early next week.

In comparing the information on the enclosures to that provided in the Preliminary Cultural Resources Assessment Report, one significant correction must be offered. Specifically, the Preliminary Cultural Resources Assessment Report apparently misidentified the location of the only NRHP certified structure, that being the Schuele-Saathoof House (see Figure 3 in the Report). As the attached illustrations point out (see the enclosed Preferred Alternative Map), the actual location of this property is near Quihi Creek, approximately 1000 feet south of the area of the proposed rail crossing of Quihi Creek.

Vicki Rutson
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SGR is hopeful that this information will be useful to SEA in assessing the cultural resources impacts affecting final route selection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David H. Coburn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David H. Coburn
Attorney for Southwest Gulf
Railroad Company

DHC/dyj
Enclosures

Southwest Gulf Railroad Medina County, Texas

Alternative Alignment 1



80' Wide Rail Easement (Yellow)

1000' Wide Area of Potential Effect
on either side of Rail Easement (Red)
Total Distance on Either Side of
Easement = 2000'

All Photo's taken on 03-02-04

NORTH

Scale: 1 mile

Aerial Date: October 1999

500' Radius Around Known Residence

500' Radius Around Potential Historic Structure

Southwest Gulf Railroad Medina County, Texas

Alternative Alignment 2

NORTH

Scale: 1 mile

Aerial Date: October 1999

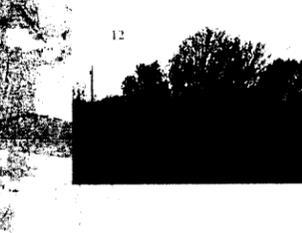
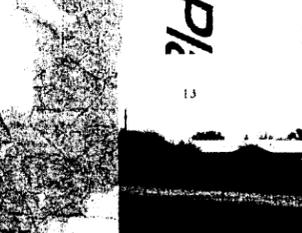
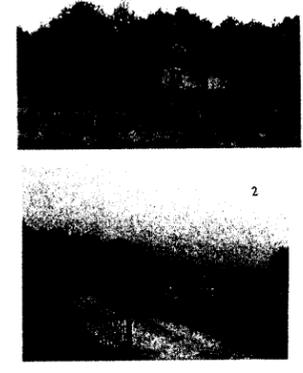
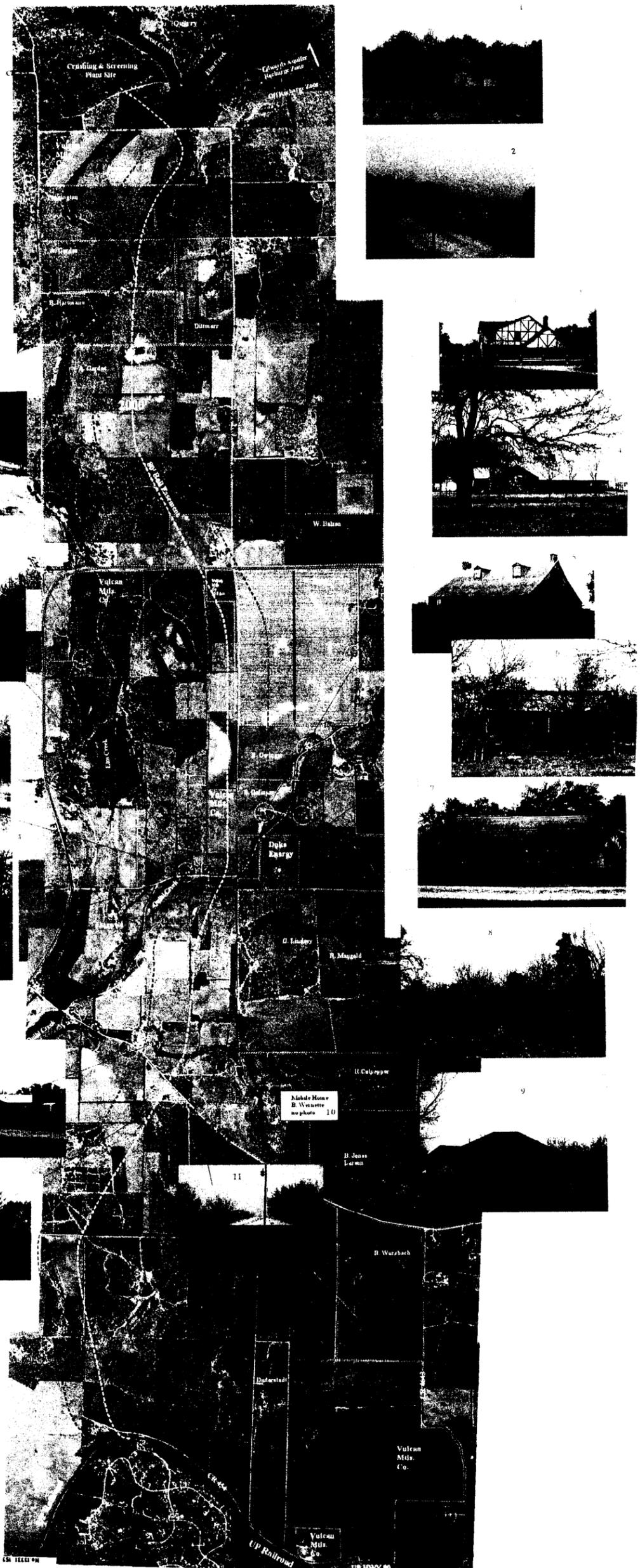
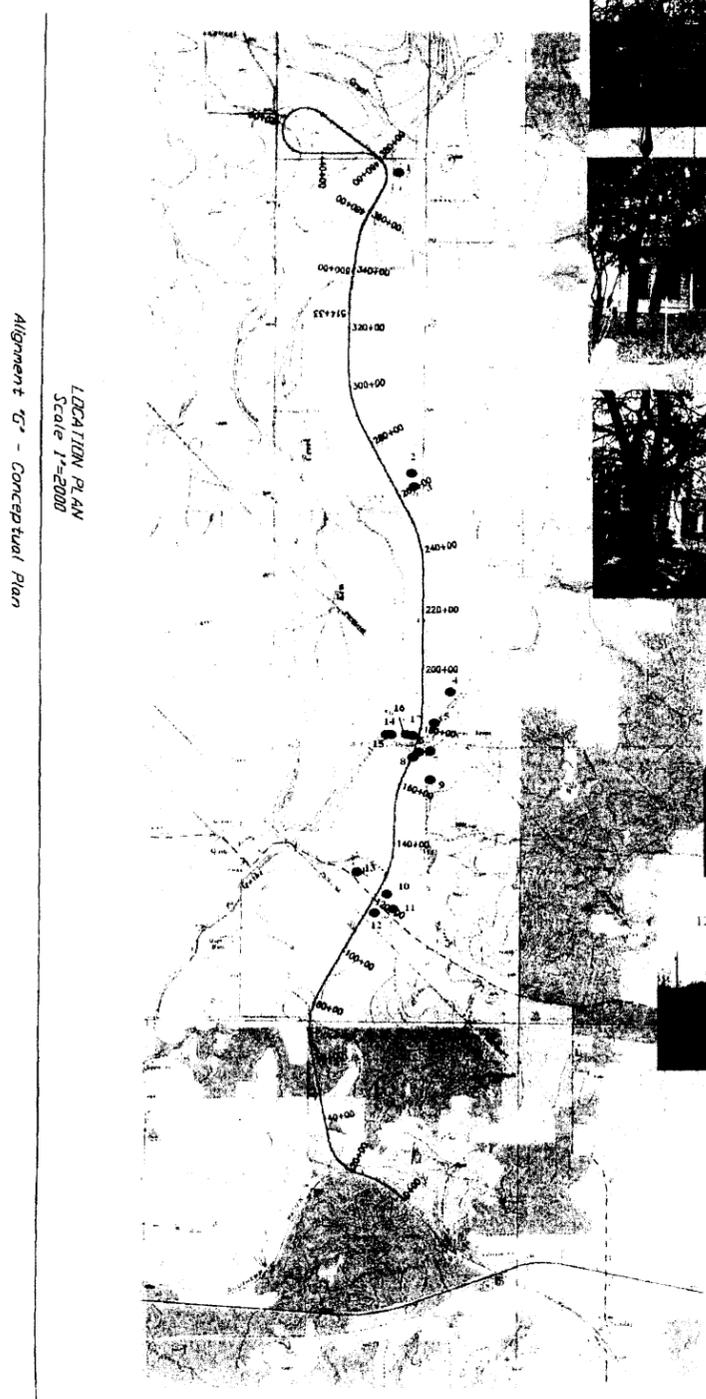
500' Radius Around Known Residence

500' Radius Around Potential Historic Structure

80' Wide Rail Easement (Yellow)

1000' Wide Area of Potential Effect
on either side of Rail Easement (Red)
Total Distance on Either Side of
Easement = 2000'

All Photo's taken on 03-02-04



Southwest Gulf Railroad Medina County, Texas

Alternative Alignment 3

NORTH

Scale: 1 mile

Aerial Date: October 1999

500' Radius Around Known Residence

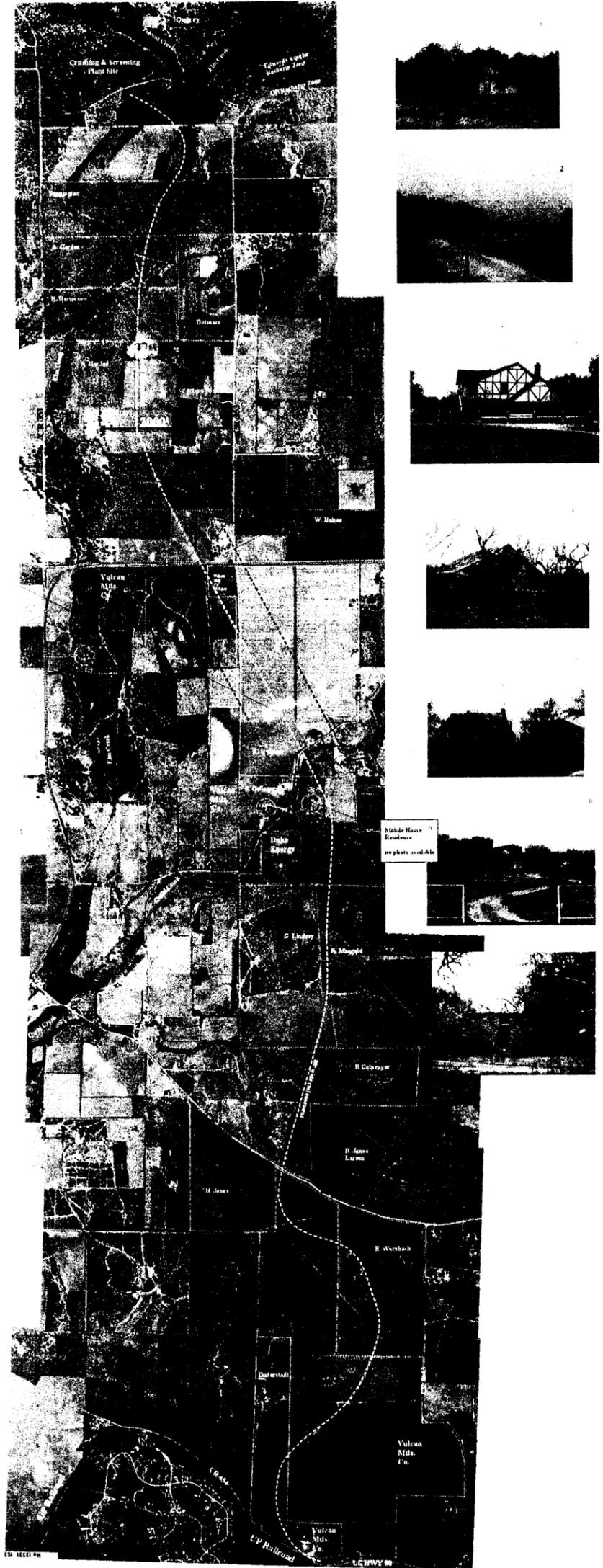
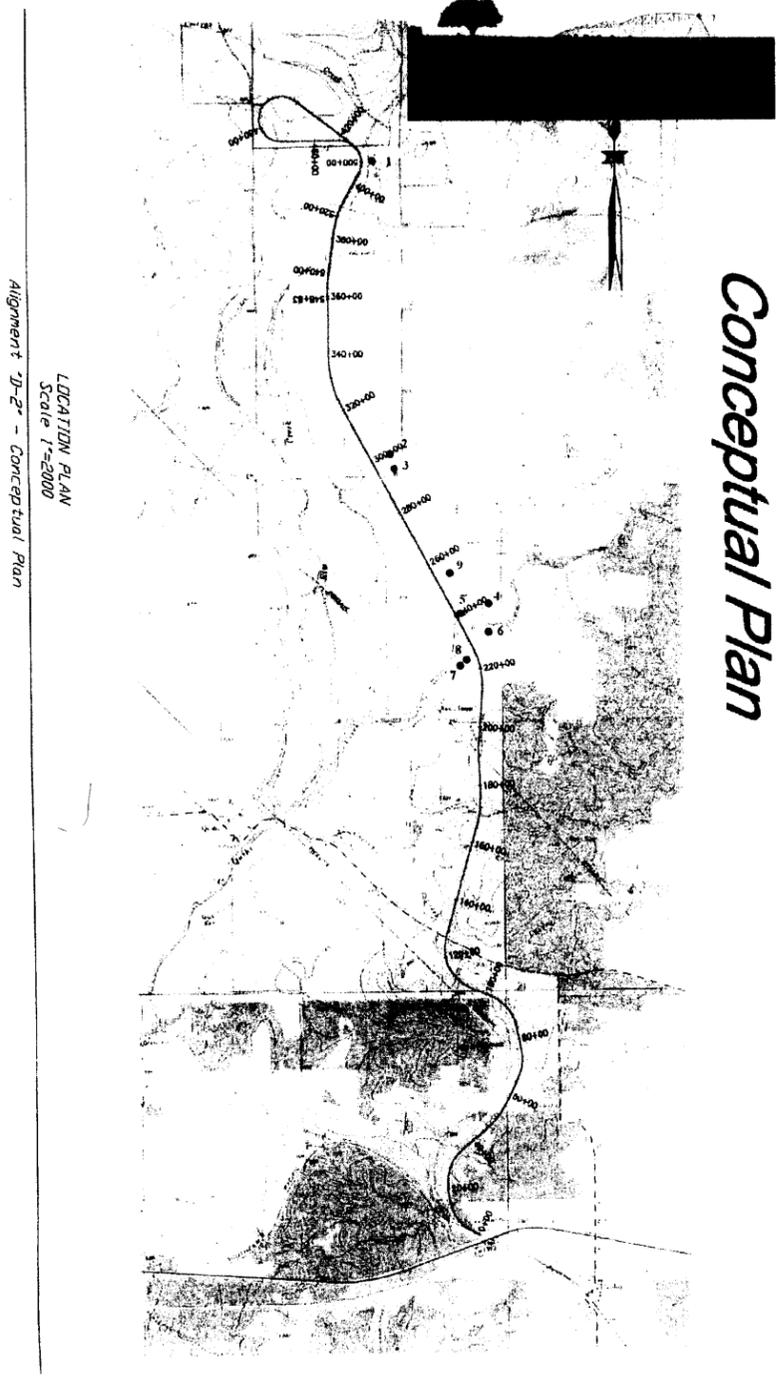
500' Radius Around Potential Historic Structure

80' Wide Rail Easement (Yellow)

1000' Wide Area of Potential Effect
on either side of Rail Easement (Red)

Total Distance on Either Side of
Easement = 2000'

All Photo's taken on 03-02-04



Prepared by Vulcan Materials Company