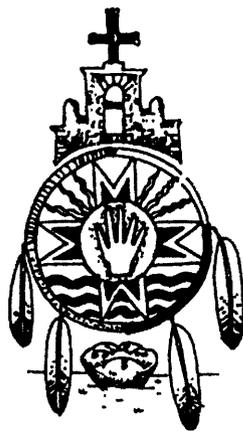


#EI-596
RS



Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation

1426 El Paso
San Antonio, Texas 78207
Ph. 210-227-4940

Certified Letter 7003 1010 0000 2279 1405

2/4/2004

Surface Transportation Board
Chief Section of Environmental
1925 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20402-0001
Attention: Ms. Victoria Rutson

Ms. Rutson

Tap Pilam
Coahuiltecan
Tribal Council

Tribes

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This is in regard to Project 34284 S.W. Gulf in Quihi Texas Medina County. It has come to our attention that a Preliminary Cultural Resource Assessment has been prepared by your agency, concerning this site. We believe that your agency along with Advisory Council on Historic Preservation have not properly complied with Federal Law in regards to notifying American Indians with Cultural affiliation. It appears that no attempt was made to contact any of the aboriginal Tribes of Texas. This practice by Federal Agencies is dishonest and a disservice to American Indians and to all Taxpayers.

As Coahuiltecan Indians we know that these sites are very likely to be of our Ancestors (Same race & culture of people from which we descend). Many past practices by some archeologist and anthropologist have created much misinformation about existing Coahuiltecan Indian Tribes.

We respectfully are requesting that we be involve in the Consultation process and that all reports pertaining to this excavation be share with our Community. Information can be mailed to Tap Pilam Tribal Council Raymond Hernandez Cultural Preservationist Rt. 1 Box 76 B-2 Comfort, Texas 78013. Can be reached at Tel. # 830-995-3356 or 210-724-3356.

Respectfully

Raymond Hernandez
Tap Pilam Tribal Council

Cc Carol Legard
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
12136 West Bayaud Suite 330
Lakewood Co 80228