

02-23-04

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Received
2/23/04

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
CASE CONTROL UNIT
1925 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20423-0001

ATTENTION: RINI GHOSH

RE: FINANCE DOCKET NO. 34284

DEAR MS. GHOSH:

IN RESPONSE TO THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, I AM SUBMITTING THE FOLLOWING TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE FORMAL SCOPING PROCESS.

I BELIEVE VULCAN'S PROPOSED QUARRY AND PROPOSED SGR RAIL LINE, REGARDLESS OF WHERE THE RAILROAD IS CONSTRUCTED, ARE CONNECTED ACTIONS, AND SHOULD BE STUDIED IN THE SAME ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT. THE STUDY SHOULD INCLUDE DIRECT IMPACTS AND ALTERNATIVES TO BOTH PROJECTS, INCLUDING NO QUARRY AND NO RAIL LINE AT ALL.

MY NAME IS SEAN FENELEY. ME AND MY FAMILY LIVE APPROXIMATELY THREE QUARTERS OF A MILE FROM THE PROPOSED QUARRY SITE. WE MOVED TO THIS AREA IN 1999 FOR PEACE AND QUIET. THE PROPOSED QUARRY AND RAIL LINE WILL TAKE THAT AWAY FROM US. THIS PROPOSED PROJECT WILL GREATLY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL OF THE RESIDENTS IN THE AREA.

ALL OF THE RESIDENTS IN THE AREA GET THEIR WATER FROM THE EDWARDS AQUIFER. OUR WELL HIT WATER AT ABOUT 280 FT. I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE PROPOSED DEPTH OF THE QUARRY IS 200-250 FT. THE MINING PROCESS HAS A GREAT POTENTIAL TO CAUSE CONTAMINATION TO THE AQUIFER. LIVING SO CLOSE TO THE PROPOSED SITE CONCERNS ME. OUR SOLE SOURCE OF WATER COULD BE CONTAMINATED. THE MINING PROCESS COULD ALSO CAUSE THE WELL TO COLLAPSE. THERE ARE NO ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCES FOR US.

ANOTHER CONCERN I HAVE IS FLOODING. OUR PROPERTY IS IN A FLOOD PLAIN. THE DIVERSION OF WATER FOR THE PROPOSED QUARRY AND RAIL LINE COULD CAUSE FLOODING THAT WILL IMPACT MY PROPERTY AND LIFE.

THE PROPOSED RAIL LINE WILL CAUSE AN INCONVENIENCE FOR TRAVEL AND COULD HINDER THE RESPONSE OF EMERGENCY VEHICLES TO THIS AREA.

THIS PROJECT WILL ALSO DECREASE MY ABILITY TO USE MY PROPERTY FOR RECREATIONAL USES. ALL OF THE ACTIVITY WILL CAUSE DISHARMONY IN THE WILDLIFE COMMUNITY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION IN THIS MATTER.

SINCERELY,


SEAN FENELEY

CC: U. S. CONGRESSMAN HENRY BONILLA
U. S. SENATOR JOHN CORNYN
TEXAS SENATOR FRANK MADLA
TEXAS REPRESENTATIVE TIMOTEO GARZA
MEDINA COUNTY JUDGE JIM BARDEN
MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONER ROYCE HARTMAN