



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Section of Environmental Analysis

Six County Association of Governments – Construction and Operation Exemption
Rail Line Between Juab and Salina, Utah
Public Scoping Meeting Comment Sheet

Name: Rachel T. Jensen
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Ephraim, UT 84627



Comments may be submitted to:
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
STB Finance Docket No. 34075
1925 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001
Attn: Phillis Johnson-Ball

Deadline: ~~November 15, 2003~~ December 8, 2003

(Please be as specific as possible)

What potential environmental issues and impacts are you concerned about?

As I own 135.8 acres of farm and hunting land running east immediately alongside the Piute Irrigation canal west of Fayette, Sanpete County, Utah, I am concerned that freight trains running through or by this property would have a very adverse effect on the surroundings. First of all, the serene quiet of this area would never be the same with two trains per day passing through this now tranquil place removed as it is from the town of Fayette and the state highway. Because my daughter spent many happy days helping her father, my late husband, Halbert K. Jensen, she has been planning to build a cabin there. Trains operating in the area would simply serve as an urban reminder of Salt Lake City where she lives. Secondly, this area has more than two hunting clubs; Sanpete Fish and Game was organized by my late father-in-law and others in the 1930s. More recently, a nephew and his father, my brother-in-law, have organized another pheasant hunting group named PRO for Pheasant Ranch Outfitters. Again, trains would disturb the habitat for local and migrating fowl and thus affect hunting possibilities. I presently own five shares in the Sanpete Fish



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and Game Club and so do not want to see its demise caused by the intrusion
of trains running nearby. Even the construction phase would be detrimental
to ecosystems. Thirdly, trains running through or alongside my farm property
would cause a devaluation of this land which has been in the family since
1944. The farm property presently has approximately 40 acres planted to
grasses; the seed is harvested by cutting off the heads and leaving the
remainder of the plants to serve as cover for pheasants and other fowl.
For years the goal has been to build and preserve habitat for game fowl
and hunting; trains simply would not aid in this endeavor; indeed, they
would detract and be harmful to the environment there.

Please note that my property is in Sections 21 and 22 west of Fayette,
Sanpete County, Utah. The large map displayed at the meeting I attended
in Gunnison had latitude and longitude readings. Thus it was difficult to
determine exactly where the proposed rail line would run.

Richard T. Jaxen