

#E1-654  
RJ

25 February 2004

Surface Transportation Board  
Case Control Unit  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001Received  
2/26/04

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 that 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.

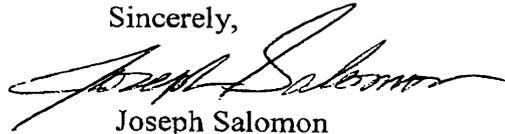
My name is Joseph Salomon and my wife's name is Vicki Salomon we are 40, and 39 years of age. We are both in the Air Force Reserves, my wife is a Registered Nurse in San Antonio and I am a Data Analyst at the 433 AW at Lackland AFB, Texas. We are approximately 3000 feet from the proposed quarry and have numerous concerns with the impact that it will have with our life and the environment.

1. I am most concerned with the fact that our well is drilled to 350 feet for our water supply and it is an Edward's well. The Vulcan Corporation has stated that they plan to mine to a depth of 250 feet which is less than 100 feet from the depth that most water for drinking is in the area surrounding the quarry site. It is a known fact that blasting at quarry sites ruins the water supply of the surrounding wells due to vibration and pressure on the wells.
2. The road that we drive on a daily bases is County Road 353 this is the only entry to our property and is only a 30 ft. wide gravel road. The quarry plans to use this road to transport it's product to the local areas at a rate of 100 loaded trucks a day plus they plan to sell to other companies that will use their own trucks to move the aggregate base. The danger of this is of concern for me and my family. The dust that will be generated from this road traffic will cause more than just health issues.
3. This area is filled with many migratory birds and bats that are in the area of the proposed quarry. There are bat caves that support the Mexican Free-Tailed bat. <http://www.thewildones.org/Animals/mexFree.html> . The area also has a population of Vermillion Fly Catchers. [http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Pyrocephalus\\_rubinus.html](http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Pyrocephalus_rubinus.html) The Wild Turkey population is just now making a come back in this

area and would be ruined by the blasting and damage caused from the quarry.  
<http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/id/framlst/i3100id.html> .

I could go on forever on why I think that this is a bad idea for this area and even get emotional about it but, I feel that this issue needs to be addressed and am deeply concerned with the impact that it will do to the Environment, and our area. Thank you for you concern and understanding. My home address is 1040 CR 353 Hondo, Texas 78861-6425. (830) 741-8352 HM. (210) 925-7860 WK.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Salomon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "S".

Joseph Salomon