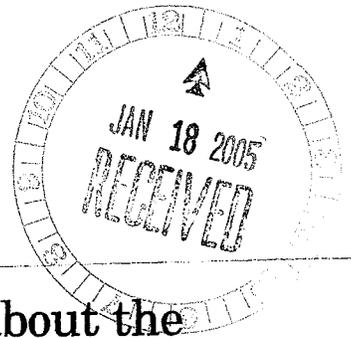


RE STB DOCKET = FD 34284

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EI-1329



We wish to express our feelings and opinions about the proposed Rail spur connecting the Vulcan quarry to an existing line several miles to the south near Dunlay, Texas. This spur cannot be separated from the quarry since this is a rural residential area which has no other businesses other than the proposed quarry. This spur simply would serve no other use other than transporting gravel.

The proposed site is about six miles below the Medina lake dam which is 99 years old. Damage to this dam causing failure would simply be catastrophic to hundreds, perhaps thousands of residences located down stream. In addition, most of the homes in this area are served by privately owned water wells. Our well produced water at 240 feet.

Many of our neighbors have even more shallow wells . Vulcan states that they plan to dig and quarry to a depth of 200 feet We are very fearful that the blasting would damage many wells in the area. The Edwards aquifer is the source of water for the entire city of San Antonio and many surrounding areas. The quarry site is to be located over the recharge zone for this aquifer. How can anyone be willing to approve blasting within forty feet of this aquifer? We feel very strongly that this is a genuine danger to the health of people who rely on this sole water source for survival.

Additionally, the quarry site as well as the proposed rail line is in a flood plain. How will excavation effect the water flow in this entire area? The cuts and fills over these

several miles will have an enormous impact on where all the ground water goes. If the Medina dam fails the entire area would be destroyed.

There is a strong feeling among many residents that Vulcan is such a huge company that some studies have been accepted upon information given by Vulcan rather than properly performed by the appropriate agencies.

No one at Vulcan is concerned with protecting this historical area or it's citizens.. Making money may be the "American Way", however, it should not be made at the expense of hundreds of Americans who love their homes as well as their community.

It is our sincere hope that no action will be taken in favor of this rail spur.

Thank You,

Leslie and Elaine Semmelmann

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