

RESOLUTION

BURNET COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A NEW RAIL LINE BY TEXAS MATERIALS GROUP, INC.-

WHEREAS, On March 4, 2025 Burnet County was notified by the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) of a proposed 26.9-mile railroad line across Burnet and Lampasas Counties;

WHEREAS, Texas Materials Group, Inc. (Texas Materials) - Docket No. FD 36815 - is planning to seek authority from the Board to construct and operate a new rail line in Burnet and Lampasas Counties, Texas.

WHEREAS, Texas Materials plans to assist in the transportation of aggregate material mined in the local area and is proposed to link the Austin Western Railroad (AWRR) in the vicinity of the City of Burnet to the BNSF Railway (BNSF) in the vicinity of Lampasas;

WHEREAS, The rail line would involve the reconstruction of track on the right-of-way of a previously abandoned rail line and the construction of track on a new right-of-way.;

WHEREAS, the OEA will prepare an environmental document that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the proposed rail construction and operation and has thus requested comments and concerns to be provided by Burnet County;

WHEREAS, Burnet County has identified how the proposed rail construction and operation will negatively impact the environment and well-being of Burnet County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BURNET COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT opposes the construction of the proposed railroad line project for the following reasons:

- 1) Detrimental effect of the proposed action on the human environment;
- 2) Detrimental effect of the proposed action on public safety in rural communities by increasing the risk of accidents at crossings and increasing emergency response times;
- 3) Detrimental effect of the proposed action on prime agricultural land;
- 4) The constant use of common carrier laws without any federal strategic plan results in any corporation taking any property without fully just compensation;
- 5) Detrimental effect on several riparian areas the most significant being the Russell Fork of the San Gabriel River;
- 6) Detrimental effect on ground water fed by the alluvial of the San Gabriel and its tributaries;
- 7) Detrimental effect on historical ranches and families working to achieve their historical designation;
- 8) Failure of the proposed action to consider alternative routes, including the consideration of a no-build alternative;
- 9) Failure of the proposed action to commit to excluding the transportation of hazardous materials transportation from the proposal.

FURTHER, Burnet County further believes that the construction and operation of a new rail line in Burnet will be detrimental to the well-being and safety of the community. Residents chose to live in Burnet County for its peaceful, rural character, and the presence of this proposed railroad line could severely alter the life citizens and property owner spent their entire lives acquiring.

FURTHER, The Burnet County Judge is directed to submit this Resolution to the Board and OEA before the 14th of April, 2025.

FURTHER, The Burnet County Judge is directed to request that the Board and OEA conduct a full and thorough review of the application submitted by Texas Materials and to provide notification of any actions occurring with this or any related filings.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Bryan Wilson
County Judge

Jim Luther
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 1

Damon Beierle
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 2

Chad Collier
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 3

Joe Don Dockery
County Commissioner, Precinct No. 4