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For Immediate Release

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Medina Line Economic Engine Enters Final Phase Before Construction

95% of route purchased or under agreement; project ahead of schedule

HONDO, TX (April 27, 2016) After more than a year of working with neighbors and the community, Southwest Gulf Railroad (SGRR) announced today it has purchased property or reached agreements with neighbors for 95 percent of right of way necessary to construct the 9-mile Medina Line, putting plans to bring jobs and economic development to the area ahead of schedule.

Committed to reaching mutually agreeable solutions with neighbors, SGRR has reached agreements with 18 of the 20 neighbors along the route. Court appointed special commissioners will soon determine how much they believe SGRR should compensate the final two neighbors for the necessary right of way to begin the construction phase.

“We are very excited that plans to bring jobs and economic opportunity to Medina County are progressing ahead of schedule,” said SGRR Vice President Erik Remmert. “Feedback from the community has been extremely positive. We are committed to investing in Medina County and are excited about continuing our partnerships with local community groups, schools and charitable and business organizations. It’s important for us to build strong and lasting relationships that will enhance quality of life throughout the region.”

The Medina Line will create new construction, engineering and operations jobs and serve as a catalyst to support others throughout the County and the region. In addition, the rail line will generate new tax revenues for vital government services, including road construction and maintenance, schools and public safety. Customers and employers who use The Medina Line will also generate additional revenue through increased household incomes and added economic benefits that support jobs and spending at local suppliers, stores and restaurants.

The Medina Line will operate as a common carrier rail line serving customers and employers located on or near the line and leveraging its unique access to Union Pacific Railroad, the nation’s largest freight railroad, and U.S. Route 90. SGRR is working with Union Pacific Railroad to actively market development opportunities on or near The Medina Line.

In an effort to encourage businesses to expand and relocate to Medina County, SGRR has partnered with a group of local municipalities, economic development groups and businesses to launch Go Medina County, which showcases Medina County and its benefits and incentives to future employers. The new partnership also provides workforce development and career resources to Medina County residents and aims to foster a vibrant local economy that enhances the quality of life in Medina County.

SGRR has created a website for anyone wanting to learn more information or sign up for updates as the project moves forward. Visit www.TheMedinaLine.com to learn more.