

November 18, 2020

To: JR Thulin

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Re: Response to Email from Leslie Sagar re: FRA Noise Model

**Greystar - Elan Keller Project** 

Keller, Texas

## **RESPONSE REGARDING FRA NOISE MODEL**

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) noise model is a predictive model that provides a DNL noise contour which is used to assess land use compatibility. SLR's analysis used 48-hours of site-specific empirical data to characterize the environmental sound levels at the site, including rail noise. As such, it is unnecessary to use the FRA model to theoretically predict the rail noise levels at these locations since we have measurements of the actual levels. Predictive modeling would be appropriate if there was reason to believe that rail traffic may increase in the future, but that is not the case with this project. And, although freight traffic may vary somewhat from day to day, the data we collected were very consistent with the FRA data for these crossings which indicate an average of 20 to 24 trains per 24 hour period. Therefore, using a predictive model such as the FRA model will not improve on the quality of data that we have already obtained and incorporated into our analysis and recommended noise mitigation treatments for the project.

Sincerely,

**SLR INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION** 

Omar C. Longoria, P.E.

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