SUBJECT: Update to Rio Grande Valley Border Barrier System Project Request for Input

Dear Chairman Barcena Jr.,

On August 14, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) began to solicit public input on potential impacts to the environment, culture, quality of life and commerce, including potential socioeconomic impacts for the proposed construction of a border barrier system in Starr County, Texas.

CBP proposes to design and construct up to 20 miles of new border barrier system in Starr County. The barrier will consist of 18-foot high, six-inch diameter bollards embedded into a movable concrete jersey barrier-style base and will include lighting, roads, detection technology and cameras. The proposed up to 20 miles project remains the same, but after CBP’s initial solicitation for public input, and as a result of continued project planning, CBP identified other potential areas within Starr County to be considered for construction. The proposed project area map, available online at https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management, includes recent updates to the proposed potential border barrier locations.

Los materiales en español están disponibles en línea en: https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management

CBP continues to seek public input and comments on the proposed project until September 15, 2023. The most helpful comments are those that include data or information that could help inform CBP’s analysis of potential impacts.

Comments can be submitted via email to RGVComments@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include “RGV Border Barrier System Project” in the subject of your email. Comments received in response to this letter, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record. If you are providing a comment about a specific area, please specify that in your comment. Comments may also be submitted via the StoryMap at https://www.cbp.gov/about/environmental-management.

You may also submit comments, questions, or concerns to the following address:

September 5, 2023

Chairman Bernard Barcena Jr.
Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas
PO Box 5218
McAllen, TX 78502-5218
bbarcena@lipanapache.org
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039
Washington, DC 20229-1100
ATTN: Paul Enriquez

We appreciate your feedback and assistance with evaluating the potential impacts of this project.

Sincerely,

Paul Enriquez
Director, Infrastructure Portfolio
U.S. Border Patrol