



In 1880, the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway joined the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad to form the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad to build west from the AT&SF mainline at Isleta, New Mexico, to meet the Southern Pacific at Needles, California. The A&P connected to the SP at Needles in August 1883, completing a transcontinental route and giving the AT&SF access to California.

East of Continental Divide, New Mexico, the A&P route follows Rio San Jose for 90 miles to South Garcia, where the route leave the river and cuts across flat terrain the remaining 35 miles to Isleta and Belen on the Rio Grande. This BNSF container consist is about 2 miles south of South Garcia and 3 miles south of Rio San Jose.



Same train as above, showing the entire string of cars in the vast landscape.