DMEA-2852
Mica
Region VII

CLAY W. WATKINS, HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA. John and Lora Randolph Mica Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina. 3-2-53

Field Report recommending denial. The report was referred to the Commodity Group.

DMEA-2852
Mica
Region VII

CLAY W. WATKINS, HENDERSONVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA. John Randolph Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina. 3-4-53

Letter to the applicant denying the application.

Miscellaneous

IN REPLY REFER TO:
G-MD-CLM

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 5, 1953

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAR 6 1953

Memorandum.

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-2852 (mica).

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration.
From: R. E. Van Alstine, U. S. Geological Survey.
Applicant: Clay W. Watkins, 913 Oakland Drive, Hendersonville, N. C.
Name of property: John Randolph mine.
Location of property:
Along a southeast trending spur of Phillips Knob 1.2 airline miles N. 21° E. of Burnsville, Yancey County, North Carolina.

Date of field team report: February 19, 1953.
Authorship of field team report: K. H. Teague and L. E. Shirley.
Field team's recommendation: Denial

Comments: None

ACTION SUGGESTED: Follow field team's recommendation.

R. E. Van Alstine
R. E. Van Alstine

G-ND-CLR REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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R. E. Van Alstine

REVan Alstine:lmc
cc: Director's Reading, 4212
Branch Reading, 4212
DMEA-(3)
Norton Files-G-232
R.E.Van Alstine-G-232

G-MD-GLM REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 5, 1953

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REVan Alstine:lmc
cc: Director's Reading, 4212
Branch Reading, 4212
DMEA-(3)
Norton Files-G-232
R.E.Van Alstine-G-232

600

March 2, 1953

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A closing review of Docket No. DMEA-2352 - Mica
Contract: None - a denial.
Property: John Randolph Mine, located along a southeast trending spur of Phillips Knob, 1.2 airline miles N.E. of Burnsville, Yancey County, North Carolina.
Applicant: Clay W. Watkins, Lessee, 913 Oakland Drive Hendersonville, North Carolina
Amount applied for - $8,000

Closing Letter: Attached hereto is copy of letter to applicant denying request for exploration assistance.

Docket Summary:

1/14/53	Application received from Region VII.
1/14/53	Application acknowledged.
2/6/53	Field examination report requested from Region VII.
2/19/53	Date of examination report prepared by K. H. Teague, USGS, and L. E. Shirley, USBM.
_____	Letter of denial of application sent to applicant.

Resume:

The deposit was inspected by the DMEA Field Team, Region VII, on February 11, 1953, and the report of the examination cites the following information.

Workings consist of a single inclined open cut, 30 feet long, 8 feet wide and up to 18 feet deep.

Books of mica are scattered through an unzoned plagioclase pegmatite, but they are not abundant. The mica is hard, clear, badly cracked and wavey. Some has a greenish cast. The main defect

is caused by intergrowth with quartz; this intergrowth has completely destroyed much of the mica.

Recently an attempt was made to operate the mine, but it was unsuccessful. There is no evidence to suggest that additional exploration will uncover a worthwhile deposit of mica. Furthermore, the color is very near the borderline for strategic mica; therefore, the Field Team Examiners recommend that the request for exploration assistance be denied.

Comment:

In view of the unfavorable report by the field engineers, the Nonmetallic Minerals Division concurs in a denial of the application.

Jasper T. Robertson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

JTRobertson:gad 3/2/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

(MICA)

DMEA-2852, JOHN RANDOLPH MINE

Y ancey County, N. C.

BY

Kefton H. Teague, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Lawrence E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

February 19, 1953

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE

3-2-53
(date)

Field Examination Report on

JOHN RANDOLPH MINE

DMEA-2852 (mica)

Applicant: Clay W. Watkins, 913 Oakland Drive, Hendersonville, N. C.

Past mining at this place has not been successful. There is no evidence of a whorthwhile deposit of strategic mica; therefore, the application for exploration assistance should be denied.

This deposit was inspected on February 11, 1953. Mr. B. G. Woody accompanied the field examiners and the examination required two hours.

The John Randolph mica mine is located along a southeast trending spur of Phillips Knob 1.2 airline miles N. 21° E. of Burnsville, Yancey County, North Carolina. Except for 1500 feet of steep sled road, access to the mine is good.

Workings consist of a single inclined open cut 30 feet long, 8 feet wide, and up to 18 feet deep. Both the mica gneiss wall rock and pegmatite are unweathered and are conformable.

The pegmatite trends N. 40° E., dipping about 60° NW. It is unzoned and is composed of plagioclase, small scattered quartz, and muscovite, and red garnet. The intrusion ranges from 3 to 8 feet in thickness and can be traced to the northeast from the open cut for at least 100 feet. Books of muscovite are scattered throughout the pegmatite, but are not abundant.

The mica is hard, clear, badly cracked and wavey, and is very light ruby to clear in color. Some of it has a greenish cast. The main defect is caused by intergrowth with quartz. This intergrowth has completely destroyed much of the mica.

Recently an attempt was made to operate this mine, but it was unsuccessful. There is no evidence to suggest that additional exploration will uncover a worthwhile deposit of mica. Furthermore, the color is very near the borderline for strategic mica; therefore the Field Team Examiners recommend that the request for exploration assistance be denied.

February 19, 1953

K. H. Teague, USGS

L. E. Shirley, USBM

zm

MAR 4 1953

Mr. Clay W. Watkins
213 Oakland Drive
Hendersonville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-2852 - Mica
John Randolph Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Watkins:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other reports available to us in Washington concerning the subject property have been reviewed.

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding material of acceptable grade in quantities that will significantly improve the mineral supply position for the National Defense Program.

Careful study of all our information, although noting a small amount of mica on your lease, indicates to us that the probability of disclosing minable ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Program and for bringing the property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

JTRobertson:gad 3/2/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Norton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

FEB 6 1953

Mr. Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region VII
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. [illegible]A-2352 - Mica
John and John Randolph
Mica Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

A field team examination is requested for the subject exploration assistance application.

Please find enclosed for your file, and information, a memorandum by [illegible]. [illegible] Dietrich, [illegible], and one by J. J. Norton, [illegible], both pertaining to this application.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

A. R. Kinkel, Jr.

Member, Geological Survey

JTRobertson:gad 2/5/53
Copy to: Admr. [illegible] File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Norton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

Enclosures 2

600

FEB 6 1953

Mr. Clay W. Watkins
913 Oakland Drive
Hendersonville, North Carolina

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2352 - Mica
John and Lora Randolph
Mica Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Watkins:

Your application for assistance in exploring the John and Lora Randolph Mica Mine, Yancey County, North Carolina, has been reviewed by the Nonmetallic Minerals Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Lawrence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville 2, Tennessee, for a field examination.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date in regard to the examination of your property. Any assistance that you may render the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

JTRobertson:gad 2/4/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Operating Committee
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Norton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

Form Approved.
Budget Bureau No. 42-R1035.2.

APPLICATION FOR AID IN AN EXPLORATION PROJECT, PURSUANT TO DMEA ORDER 1, UNDER THE DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT OF 1950, AS AMENDED

Not to be filled in by applicant

Docket No. DMEA-2-852
Metal or Mineral
Date Received 1/14/53
Estimated Cost
Participation (Government %)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Name of applicant.*—(*a*) State here your full legal name, in the form in which you will wish to contract, and your mailing address:

Clay W. Watkins
913 Oakland Drive
Hendersonville, North Carolina.

(*b*) If other than an individual, add to your name above whether a corporation, partnership, etc., and the name of the State in which incorporated or otherwise organized.

(*c*) If a corporation, add to above statement, titles, names and addresses of officers.

(*d*) If a partnership, add to the above statement the names and addresses of all partners.

2. *General.*—Read DMEA Order 1, "Government Aid in Defense Exploration Projects," before completing this application. Submit this application and all accompanying papers in quadruplicate (four copies), with your name and address on each sheet of the application and on all accompanying papers. Where sufficient space is not provided on the form for all required information, state it on an accompanying paper, with a reference in each case to the instruction to which it refers by number. Comply with all applicable instructions; or, if not applicable, so state. File the application with Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., or with the nearest field executive officer thereof.

3. *Applicant's property rights.*—(*a*) State the legal description of the land upon which you wish to explore, including all land which you possess or control that may be benefited by the exploration, and excluding any land or interest in land which is not to be included in the exploration project contract

Land- 9 acres in Yancey County, North Carolia- owned by John and Lora Randolph. For legal description see copy of lease, attached hereto.

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. None.

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise

Lessee.

(*d*) If you are not the owner, submit with this application a copy of the lease, contract, or other document under which you control the property.

(*e*) If you own the land, describe any liens or encumbrances on it

Do not own.

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

4. *Physical description.*—(*a*) Describe in detail any mining or exploration operations which have been or now are being conducted upon the land, including existing mine workings and production facilities. State your interest, if any, in such operations. Also describe accessibility of mine workings for examination purposes.

(*b*) State past and current production, and ore reserves, if any, giving quantities and grades.

(*c*) Describe the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit (vein, bedded, etc.), and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Send with your application (but not necessarily as a part of it) any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

(*d*) State the facts with respect to the accessibility of the project: Access roads, distances to shipping, supply and residence points.

(*e*) State the availability of manpower, materials, supplies, equipment, water, and power.

16—66551-1

See 4. attached hereto.

5. *The exploration project.*—(*a*) State the mineral or minerals for which you wish to explore

Strategic Mica.

(*b*) Describe fully the proposed work, including a map or sketch of the property showing a plan (and cross sections if needed) of any present mine workings, and the location of the proposed exploration work as related to such features as contacts, veins, ore-bearing beds, etc.

(*c*) The work will start within 60 days and be completed within 6 months from the date of an exploration project contract.

(*d*) State the operating experience and background of the applicant with relation to the ability to carry out such exploration project, and also that of the person or persons who will supervise the operations.

6. *Estimate of costs.*—Furnish a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work (you will have to use a separate sheet), under the following headings. Add the totals under all headings to give the estimated total cost of the project:

(*a*) *Independent contracts.*—(Note.—If the applicant does not intend to let any of the work to contractors, write "none" after this item. To the extent that the work is to be contracted, do not repeat the cost of the contract-work in subsequent items.) State the cost of any proposed independent contracts for the performance of all or any part of the work, expressed in terms of units of work (such as per foot of drilling, per foot of drifting, per hour of bulldozer operations, per cubic yard of material moved, etc.).

(*b*) *Labor, supervision, consultants.*—Include an itemized schedule of numbers, classes and rates of wages, salaries or fees for necessary labor, supervision and engineering and geological consultants.

(*c*) *Operating materials and supplies.*—Furnish an itemized list, including items of equipment costing less than $50 each, and power, water and fuel.

(*d*) *Operating equipment.*—Furnish an itemized list of any operating equipment to be rented, purchased, or which is owned and will be furnished by the Operator, with the estimated rental, purchase price, or suggested use-allowance based on present value, as the case may be.

(*e*) *Rehabilitation and repairs.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary initial rehabilitation or repairs of existing buildings, installations, fixtures, and movable operating equipment, now owned by the Operator and which will be devoted to the exploration project.

(*f*) *New buildings, improvements, installations.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of any necessary buildings, fixed improvements, or installations to be purchased, installed or constructed for the benefit of the exploration project.

(*g*) *Miscellaneous.*—Furnish a detailed list showing the cost of repairs to and maintenance of operating equipment (not including initial rehabilitation or repairs of the Operator's equipment), analytical work, accounting, workmen's compensation and employers' liability insurance, and payroll taxes.

(*h*) *Contingencies.*—Give an estimate of any necessary allowances for contingencies not included in the costs stated above.

NOTE.—No items of general overhead, corporate management, interest, taxes (other than payroll and sales taxes), or any other indirect costs, or work performed or costs incurred before the date of the contract, should be included in the estimate of costs.

7. (*a*) Are you prepared to furnish your share of the cost of the proposed project in accordance with the regulations on Government participation (Sec. 7, DMEA No. 1)?

(*b*) How do you propose to furnish your share of the costs?

[*] Money [ ] Use of equipment owned by you [ ] Other

Explain in detail on acompanying paper.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, whether as an individual, corporate officer, partner, or otherwise, both in his own behalf and acting for the applicant, certifies that the information set forth in this form and accompanying papers is correct and complete, to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Dated January 5th., 1953

Clay W. Watkins
(Applicant)

BY

Title 18, U. S. Code (Crimes), Section 1001, makes it a criminal offense to make a willfully false statement or representation to any department or agency of the United States as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—66551-1

Application - MF 103

Clay W. Watkins
Hendersonville, N.C.

4. (a) No exploration or mining operations on the property at present.

(b) Prospected three years ago but not operated.

(c) A strike is apparent which appears to be at a 30 to 35 degree angle and is an imbedded vein of pegmatic structure. The strategic mica is of the Ruby type. A sample has been submitted to the Government Department at Spruce Pine, N.C. and and approved for acceptance.

(d) This property is located about three miles East of Burnsville, N.C. and about one-eighth mile off a paved highway. Product will be truck hauled to Micaville (5 miles) or to Spruce Pine (14 miles) for processing or splitting.

(e) Plenty of experienced manpower is available. Materials, supplies and equipment are readily obtainable. Water and electric power are available.

5. (a) Strategic Mica.

(b) See map and data attached hereto.

(c) Will start work within 60 days and expect to complete within 6 months from date of exploration project contract.

(d) Applicant has had more than 20 years experience in minerals mining and is thoroughly familiar with the methods prevailing in this region.
Also expect to hire only experienced foremen and workmen whom he knows in this section.

Application- MF 103

Clay W. Watkins
Hendersonville, N.C.

6.

(a) No independent contracts.

(b)	One foreman @ $1.50 per hour-30days-8hr. day	$ 360.
	Three workmen 1.00 " " "	720.
	Supervision and engineering @ $20. per day	600.
(c)	Shovels, picks, mattocks, small tools	50.
	Wheelbarrow	20.
	Dynamite and caps	100.
	Bits and drilling steel	150.
(d)	Air compressor and Jack Hammer	3,000.
	Hoist	2,000.
	Water pump and pipes	400.
(e)	None.	
(f)	Toolhouse	60.
	Dynamite storage house	20.
	Dynamite caps storage house	20.
(g)	Maintenance of equipment and use @ $10. per day	300.
	Insurance and payroll taxes	25.
(h)	Contingencies	175.
	Total-	$ 8,000.

7.

(a) Yes.

(b) Money-ten per cent or $800.
In addition, applicant expects to devote full time to overseeing operations.