MAR 4 1954 600

Mr. R. C. Jennings
Jennings & Crane
Sears Roebuck Building
North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3168 - Mica
John W. Ferguson - J. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Jennings:

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

Projects approved by the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration must, in its judgment, show definite promise of yielding materials 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 property, 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 your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

LGHouk:gad 3/1/54
Copy to: Admr. T. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAR 2 - 1954

March 1, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3168

Applicant: R. C. Jennings and C. G. Crane

Name and Location of Property: John B. Ferguson and T. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: February 17, 1954

Date Rec'd by Ceramic and Fertilizer Mats. Branch: February 25, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Denial of application.

Comments:

1. Mica found at deposit was not of strategic quality.
2. Condition of pegmatite does not warrant a project.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation to deny subject application on the basis that the mica is non-strategic.

signed

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:
G-MD-CNM

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAR 1 - 1954

February 24, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3168 (MICA)

To: L. G. Houe, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: W. C. Jennings and C. G. Crane, Tilesboro, N. C.
Name of property: J. H. Ferguson and F. B. Finley tract.
Location of property: Wilkes County, N. C.
Date of field team report: February 10, 1954.
Authorship of field team report: E. R. Teague, W. H. Amos, and L. W. Shirley.
Field team's recommendation: Denial.
Comments: Quality of mica poor.
Applicant inexperienced.
300 yds. access road needed.
ACTION RECOMMENDED: Follow field team's recommendation.

D. M. Larrabee

Larrabee:jeh
2/24/54
cc: Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
DMEA 3
Larrabee G-230

Mr. Anderson

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION

REFERENCE SLIP

DATE 2/24/54

REFERRED TO:

1. ~~Operating Committee~~
2. ~~Miss Curtin, Rm. 4539~~
3. 600
4.

FOR:

..... Action	..... Recommendation
..... Approval	..... Record
..... Comment	of .....
..... Conference	..... Referring
..... Consideration	to .....
..... Filing	..... Reply for signa-
..... Instructions	ture of .....
..... Investigation	..... Rewriting
..... Initials	..... Signature
..... Mailing	..... Suggestions
..... Previous correspondence	..... Your information

REMARKS: Field Exam. Report
~~For Agenda 2/26/54~~

Check (X) before the items needing attention.

George C. Selfridge

Initials of sender.

GPO 16—63815-1

C
O
P
Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tenn.

February 17, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, D M E A - Washington

From: Field Team, D M E A - Region VII

Subject: Report of Examination on DMEA-3168, John B. Ferguson and T. B. Finley Tract. North Carolina

Transmitted are four copies of the above subject examination report. The Field Team concurs in the denial of this application.

/s/ Wm. A. Beck
Wm. A. Beck, Acting
Executive Officer, DMEA-Reg. 7

/s/ Benjamin Gildersleeve
Benjamin Gildersleeve, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
2-26-54
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

On

DMEA-3168
John B. Ferguson and T. B. Finley Tract
(mica)
Wilkes County, North Carolina

By

Kefton H. Teague and Dewey H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

and

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

February 10, 1954

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
2-26-54
(date)

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION

FIELD TEAM REPORT
On
DMEA-3168, John B. Ferguson, T. B. Finley Tract
(mica)

Applicants: R. C. Jennings and C. G. Crane, Sears Roebuck Bldg. North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Most of the mica from this deposit is badly curved and is not of strategic quality; therefore, the examiners recommend that the application be denied.

The deposit was examined February 10, 1954. Mr. R. C. Jennings accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

This deposit is 4 airline miles N. 60° W. of the mouth of Elk Creek and 17.5 airline miles S 87° W. of North Wilkesboro, Wilkes County, North Carolina. It is reached by driving 3.7 miles of gravel road up Elk Creek from State Route 268 and then 2 miles of jeep road west from Elk Creek. No road is present the last 300 yards.

The applicant has had no experience in mining. This property is owned by the applicant.

No surface facilities are present. Electricity is not available. Existing works consist of a circular open cut about 25 feet deep and 75 feet in diameter. Two adits have been driven from the west side of the cut in a northwesterly direction; both are caved. There are several small pits northeast of the cut.

A zoned pegmatite 9-12 feet thick is exposed in the west face of the open cut. It strikes E-W and dips 50° S. The pegmatite consists of fine-grained feldspar, quartz, and muscovite with a quartz core about 3 feet thick. Several discontinuous quartz stringers occur in the pegmatite above the core.

The pegmatite is conformable to the country work, a mica gneiss. The gneiss is highly tourmalinized along the hanging wall of the pegmatite.

The mica is concentrated adjacent to the quartz core and stringers. It is green and hard; most is badly curved, wedged and is of "A" structure. Some contains biotite inclusions. As little of the mica is of strategic quality, it is the opinion of the examiners that no work is warranted.

History of past operation and production is not known. According to the applicant the major portion of the past production was achieved in the early 1920's.

Date: Feb. 10, 1954.

K. H. Teague and D. H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey
and

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

z

600

JAN 2 0 1954

Mr. H. C. Jennings
Jennings & Crane
Sears Roebuck Building
North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3168 - Mica
John H. Ferguson - T. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Your application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Nonmetallic Minerals Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville 2, Tennessee, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date if an examination is to be made. Any assistance that you may give the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mitzendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 1/19/54

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

JAN 2 0 1954 600

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3168 - Mica
Jennings & Crane
John B. Ferguson - T. B. Finley
Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Please review the subject application and arrange for a field examination if you deem it advisable.

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

T. P. Thayer

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

WCAnderson:gad 1/19/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

JAN - 4 1954

Mr. R. C. Jennings
Jennings & Crane
Sears Roebuck Building
North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3168 - Mica
John B. Ferguson - T. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Jennings:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 18, 1953, enclosing the papers which show the Deed of Trust on the subject property as paid. These papers are returned herewith.

We will resume processing your application when we receive the information you indicate will be forwarded between now and January 15, 1953.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence C. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Enclosures 3

WCAnderson:gad 12/30/53

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

December 30, 1953

Memorandum

To: Operations Control and Statistics Division

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3168 - Mica
John B. Ferguson - T. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Papers submitted by the applicant and examined by this Division and the Legal Division, showed that the Deed of Trust held on the subject property has been paid.

These papers have been returned to the applicant.

SIGNED

W. C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 12/30/53

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

DEC 3 - 1953

Mr. R. C. Jennings
Jennings & Crane
Sears Roebuck Building
North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3166 - Miss
John B. Ferguson - T. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Reference is made to our letter dated September 24, 1953, requesting additional information necessary to process your application.

Inasmuch as we have received no reply, we assume that you no longer desire to proceed with the application. We wish to cooperate with you in the matter of allowing ample time, but if the needed data have not been received by January 15, 1954, we will then consider the docket closed.

Sincerely yours,

G. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 12/2/53

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

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

September 30, 1953

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3168, Mica, Jennings and Crane, Wilkes County North Carolina

No data are available in this office on subject property since it is a new prospect. It is suggested that the field team visit this property when a member of the field team is in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration program is justified.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

600

SEP 2 4 1953

Mr. R. C. Jennings
Jennings & Crane
Sears Roebuck Building
North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMRA-3168 - Mica
John B. Ferguson - T. B. Finley Tract
Wilkes County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Reference is made to the subject application for exploration assistance and the need for additional information to process the application.

Please note Article 6 of MP-103, a blank copy of which is enclosed, that it is a requisite part of your application to include cost estimates for the required work. Kindly supply answers to Article 6, (a) to (f) inclusive, giving a detailed breakdown under each of the sub-headings.

Also, please submit any information you may have on the old mine workings and the character of the mica that was produced, metes and bounds description of the property, and sketches or maps of the mine or surroundings.

Your application will be processed when the requested information is received.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Enclosure
WCAnderson:gad 9/24/53
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Memorandum

September 18, 1953

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3168 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: Donald A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: R. G. Jennings and G. C. Crane, Sears Roebuck Building, North Wilkesboro, North Carolina.
Name of property: J. B. Ferguson and T. B. Finley tract.
Location of property: 100 acres on Elk Creek, Wilkes County, North Carolina.
Summary of applicant's proposal: "It is proposed to rehabilitate old mine by drainage, timber it and mine mica there; also to explore tract for mica."
"We are advised that we should have around $4,000"
Sources of information on applicant's property: No information in the files on this property or any in the immediate area.
Comments:

1. No real proposal is suggested--entire proposal is quoted above. It is mostly a development scheme.
2. Applicants' story is conflicting. See item 4a -- mine worked seven years ago: item 4b -- mine not worked for 25 years.
3. No attempt was made to break down costs in item 6, and no sketches of mine or surroundings were submitted.
4. Applicants' do not express great interest in the project (see item 4a on the sheet attached to the application). It appears that someone is pushing Crane and Jennings into a try for a handout.

RECOMMENDATION:

Before submitting this to the field team, the application should be returned for more information about the old workings on the property, the character of the mica, a more detailed estimate of costs, a sketch of the mine workings and a more realistic proposal for exploration with less emphasis on development.

Donald A. Brobst

Brobst:jeh
9/18/53
cc: Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
DMEA 3
Brobst G-230