APR 8 1954 600

Mr. John Phillips, et al.

Sprucepine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3249 - Mica
John Phillips, A. Ward
Hopkins Keller, and Howard Stewart
Emma Reid Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other reports available to us in Washington relating to the subject property 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 indicates to us that the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mica 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

WCAnderson:gad 3/23/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

March 23, 1954

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and summary report.

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. DMEA Docket No. 3249 - Mica
   Property - Emma Reid Mine
   Macon County, North Carolina

   Applicants - John Phillips, A. Ward, Hayden Keller and Howard Stewart
   C/o John Phillips
   Spruce Pine, North Carolina

2. Application, Form MF-103, dated January 29, 1954.
   Amount requested: $4,725.00
   No contract: Application denied.

3. Comments:

   Geological Premise - Is based on the theory that a series of mica shoots, occurring in the Buoy No. 1 Mine adjoining to the South, will continue on into the Emma Reid Mine.

   Geological Criteria:
   1. Recent work by applicants, consisting of a 70-foot shaft and 54 feet of drift directed to "shoots" referred to under "Geological Premise", has failed to intersect any of them.
   2. More biotite present in this portion of pegmatite than in most Macon County pegmatites.
   3. Muscovite mica recovered has been of poor quality.
   4. Report says that work to date has cost $12,000 and $3,000 worth of mica was produced.

   Future possibilities: Are remote for an economically feasible operation.

   Recommendations: Concur with field team that application should be denied.

WCAnderson:gad 3/23/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Mr. Houk

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

Bureau of Mines
APR 2 1954

April 2, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3249

Applicant: J. Phillips, A. Ward, H. Keller, and H. Stewart

Name and Location of Property: Emma Reid Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: March 19, 1954

Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fert. Mats. Branch: March 29, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Denial of application.

Comments:

1. Proposed exploration would be on the northern continuation of the pegmatite mined at Buoy Mine. The Emma Reid is adjacent to Buoy, with a creek serving as a dividing line.

2. The examiners are of the opinion that this is not a worthwhile deposit.

3. Operations at the Emma Reid Mine thus far have produced only $3,000 worth of mica at a cost of $12,000.

4. From all indications, it appears that an exploration program at subject mine is not justified.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation to deny exploration on subject mine on the basis of poor geological probabilities for developing an adequate source of strategic mica.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

March 23, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3249 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: John Phillips, A. Ward, Hayden Keller and Howard Stewart, Spruce Pine, N. C.
Name of property: Emma Reid Mine.
Location of property: Macon County, N. C.
Date of field team report: March 16, 1954.
Authorship of field team report: M. H. Teague, L. B. Shirley, and D. H. Amos.
Field team's recommendation: No exploration assistance.
Comments:

Extremely poor chance of making a contribution to the mica stockpile. It would probably be just the addition of another gopher hole to a thoroughly gophered area, where there are no gophers in need of holes.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

Follow field team's recommendation.

D. M. Larrabee

cc: DMEA 3

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON 25, D. C.~~

Room 13, Post Office
Knoxville 2, Tenn.

C O P Y

March 19, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

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

Subject: DMEA-3249 (mica) Emma Reid Mine. Field Examination Report

Enclosed are 4 copies of the subject examination report.

We are in agreement with the field examiners' recommendation for denial of this application.

/s/ Robert A. Laurence
Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer
DMEa Region VII

/s/ Wm. A. Beck
Wm. A. Beck, for V. J. Lynch
U. S. Bureau of Mines

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
3-26-54
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF FIELD EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3249, EMMA REID MINE (mica)
Macon County, North Carolina

by

Kefton H. Teague, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey
**
Lawrence E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines
****
Dewey H. Ames, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
3-26-54
(date)

March 16, 1954

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

ON

EMMA REID MINE

DMEA-3249, (mica)

Applicants: John Phillips, A.Ward , Hayden Keller and Howard Stewart
c/o John Phillips, Spruce Pine, North Carolina

The pegmatite involved in this application is the northern continuation of the one worked at the Buoy No. 1 (Rock Cut)Mine. Some mica has been recovered by the applicants recent work, but not enough to provide an economical operation. It appears to the field examiners that the principle basis for this application is to "Bail the applicants out" of an unprofitable mine. We do not recommend exploration assistance.

The mine was visited on March 8 and again on March 9, 1954, at which time the underground openings were dewatered. Messrs. John Phillips and A. Ward accompanied the examiners on the inspection March 8. The examination required four hours.

The Emma Reid Mine is in the floodplain of Watauga Creek, 4 miles N. 36° E. of Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina. It is about 50 feet north of the creek and has good access at all times.

Until the applicants began work, no effort had been made to mine the Buoy pegmatite north of the creek. The applicants have sunk a 70-foot shaft and driven 54 feet of drift from the 68-foot level. The drift is on a 6 - 10 foot pegmatite which strikes N. 25° E. and dips 70° S E. No mica "shoot" was encountered, although approximately $3,000 worth of mica resulted from the work. An estimated 100 gal./min. of water has to be pumped to keep the mine dry; however, almost all of this water comes in above the top of rock.

In the Buoy No.1 mine a series of mica "shoots" have been profitably worked. These shoots rake from a low angle to 35° to the northeast. As the deepest workings at the Buoy No. 1 Mine is now about 90 feet, work on the Reid mine has been directed toward intersecting them. None have been found.

The reason for the shaft on the Reid property is that the creek is the property line and the owners of the Buoy No. 1 Mine will not permit the operators to remove muck from the Reid property through the Buoy workings.

The pegmatite in the new workings is composed of plagioclase feldspar, quartz, biotite and muscovite, listed in order of abundance. More biotite is present in this portion of the pegmatite than is present in most of the Macon County pegmatites. The muscovite recovered from the work to date has been in general of poor quality. Much of it is "tied" and black spots are common.

It is reported that the work to date has cost $12,000 and that $3,000 worth of mica was produced.

The field examiners are of the opinion that the possibility of discovering a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica on this property are poor, thus we recommend denial of the application.

March 8-9, 1954

K. H. Teague and D. H. Ames, Geologists
U. S. G. S.

L. E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. B. M.

Mar 9 1954

Mr. John Phillips, et al.

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3249 - Mica
John Phillips, A. Ward,
Hayden Keller, and Howard Stewart
Emma Reid Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

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,

O. O. Wittendorf

Administrator

LGHook:gad 3/9/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Field Team, Reg. 7
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Hook

600

MAR 1 0 1954

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3249 - Mica
John Phillips, A. Ward,
Hayden Keller, and Howard Stewart
Dana Reid Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

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

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey, dated February 4, 1954 and from the Bureau of Mines, dated February 5, 1954, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

D. M. Larrabee

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

LGHouk:gad 3/9/54

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

600

FEB 10 1954

Mr. John Phillips, et al.

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMSA-3249 - Mica
John Phillips, A. Ward, Hayden Keller,
and Howard Stewart
Rama Reid Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the subject application for exploration assistance.

We are lacking Owner's Consent to lien which you state will follow. In addition, we lack an acceptable legal description of your property that is the bounding bearings and distances enclosing the area. The description contained in the lease is inadequate.

Processing of your application will be resumed upon receipt of the above information.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 2/10/54

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

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

RECEIVED
FEB 8 1954

February 5, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3249

Applicant: Ward, Phillips, and Keller

Name and Location of Property: Emma Reid Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Application Rec'd by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mats. Branch: February 3, 1954

Comments:

1. No data available in this office on subject property.
2. Estimated costs - $4,725

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this property when a member of the field team is in that vicinity to ascertain if a project is justified.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:
B-MM-CNM

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

February 4, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3249 (MICA)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: A. Ward and John Phillips, Spruce Pine; Hayden Keller, Pineola; and H. Stewart, Franklin, N. C.
Name of property: Nama Reid.
Location of property: Along Watauga Creek, 6 miles E. of Franklin, Macon County.
Summary of applicant's proposal:

1.	35' of 5' x 7' shaft at $50/ft.	$1750.00
2.	50' of drift at $35/ft.	1750.00
3.	35' of cross-cut at $35/ft.	1225.00
		$4725.00

Sources of information on applicant's property: None.
Comments:

1. The applicants are known to be competent.
2. The applicants have begun work on their own money and are now requesting aid. If they were willing to start on their own, we should send the field team in to look over the progress to date to see if prospects warrant government participation.

RECOMMENDATION:
Send the field team to examine the property.

Brobst:jeh
2/4/54
cc: Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
DMEA 3
Brobst G-230

D. A. Brobst