JUL 30 1954

Mines and Mining, Inc.
P. O. Box 8184
Asheville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3357 - Mica
Houston Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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,

G. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 7/29/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, 5216
Mr. Houk

July 28, 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. 3357 - Mica
Property: Houston Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Applicant: Mines and Mining, Inc.
Box 8184
Asheville, North Carolina

Application: Form MF-103, received May 19, 1954.
Work proposed: Drive 100 feet of drift at head of opencut, muck for 100 feet where vein is covered, bulldoze mine road and construct tool house.
Amount requested: $6,170.00
No contract: Application denied.

2. Comments:

Geological premise: There is no evidence that the exposed pegmatite will improve in the amount or quality of mica.

Geological criteria upon which denial is based:
1. Unweathered pegmatite, lean in mica, averaging 4 feet in thickness.
2. Inferior quality mica.

Future possibilities: It is the belief of the field team that this pegmatite will not sustain a profitable operation.

Recommendations:

The Nonmetallic Minerals Division concurs in field team's recommendation to deny the application.
The Geological Survey concurs.
The Bureau of Mines concurs on the basis that the mica is non-strategic.

WCAnderson:gad 7/28/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk

C
O
P
Y

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON, D.C.~~
ROOM 13, POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

July 26, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: Mines and Mining, Inc., Ashville, N. C.
DMEA-3265, Farlow Gap Mine (mica)
✓DMEA-3357, Houston Mine (mica)

Enclosed herewith are copies of letters from Fred Wilson, dated June 19 and July 10, 1954, both of which were received in the same registered enveloped this morning.

Please note that Wilson says he is no longer connected with Mines and Mining, Inc., and that the equipment at Farlow Gap is his personal property. It would appear advisable to delay any action on the Farlow Gap contract until a satisfactory accounting of this situation is received.

As to Wilson's complaint about not being present at the examination, we notified Mines and Mining, Inc., at the address given on the application, and went with the representatives they sent. We do not consider it our responsibility to select the applicant's field representatives on these examinations.

/s/
Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Region VII

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

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.

July 26, 1954

Mr. Fred Wilson
45 King Street
Asheville, North Carolina

Re: DMEA-3357 (mica)
DMEA-3265 (mica)
Mines and Mining, Inc.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Your letters of June 19 and July 10, via registered mail, were received this morning. The extra copies were forwarded to Our Washington office today.

I regret that you were not notified when the field examinations were made. However, we notified Mines and Mining, Inc., at the address given on the applications, when the examinations were scheduled, and the examinations were conducted with the representatives designated by the company. We do not consider it our responsibility to select the applicant's representatives on a field examination.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer, DMEA
Region VII

C O P Y

45 King St.,
Asheville, N. C.
June 19th 1954

Mr. Robert A. Lawrence,
Defense Minerals Administration,
Knoxville, Tenn.,

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

There are manny things I should tell you under Mines and Mining Inc., I think you should know, the parties I am in with are ameteurs, they themselves say they do not know anything about mining, Hasbrouck, President, Rogers Grant, Sectary & Treasurer, I Vice President, and Superintendent, as conditions are they have complete controll and keep everything secrete from me, my superintending have been ignored all the way,

I figures out the Farlow Gap Mica Mine, the applications cost of doing the work, and my own personal equipment was figures for the job, under these circumstances I should of been present at the inspection, so much secrecy seemingly was used to prevent me from being there, I have just learned that one of the inspectors stated that in a job prior to this an argument at the "A" Mine between an inspector and myself, I dont recall it.

My conclusings is that Hasbrouck and Grant intend to freeze me out of the Inc., a party overherd them say so, I prefer myself that Mines & Mining Inc be dissolved and no money granted by the Defense Minerals Administration, for the Farlow Gap Mica mine or the Houston Mica Mine on the Rocky Face Mt., I found these mines and give them their interest, I put in the applications for the money for the Houston mine on the Rocky Face Mt., with the maps and I want that inspection stopped.

As conditions are I prefer not to be party with them any longer they know nothing about mining and take no advice from me, all monies from the sales of mica are in their hands and they pay no royalty we lost two good Ruby Mica mines in S. C., on account no royalty was paid one signs a check and the otherone counter signs it, they psy themselves expense checks instead of paying bills and I hate to know what conditions they will get a Defense Project in, I am herein telling Defense Minerals Administration that I want no responsibility concerning money loaned to Mines & Mining, Inc., you may send copies of this letter to the Defense Minerals Administration, in Washington.

I hope you will understand how I feel concerning the management of Mines & Mining, Inc., I am going to continue mining mica, Beryl, and non-ferrious minerals, But under different management and reliable parties.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Fred Wilson

C O P Y

54 King St.,
Asheville, N. C.
July 10th 1954

Mr. Robert A. Lawrence,
Defense Minerals Administration,
Knoxville, Tenn.,

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

It have been some time since I written you the encolsed letter, but I see now I should of sent it when first written, the inspection on the Houston mine have been done without my knowledge, and as I made all Maps, mining espenses etc., I should of been present but they have such a undermining way of conducting our mining operations they dont want me present at any inspections, if they knew anything it would be different.

I am now having this Mining & Mining, Inc dissolved I put them in a good mine the Cely mine in Anderson County, S. C., and in our prospecting of the mine they sold $500.00 worth of Mica I produced the Mica, I only drew $20 for my share they kept the balance for their expenses. they owe the Lessors $51.00 for Royalty which have been over due for two months, so the lease have been Null and Voided, this leaves me in a bad standing, besides the mine was a #I Ruby mine and the vein was from 12 to 50 feet wide, in quartzs and blue spar, if I had of had any selling of Mica and of paying of the Royalty the mine would of been in good standing, also a bill owing to Hester, New Bumcombe Road Greenville for $375.00 a gas bill for 450 gallons of gas they run out in their own cars going back and forth to asheville everday I only burnt a total of appx., 75 gallond of that gas drilling, Anny and every mine I obtained leases on I produced enough of Mica to pay for the Prospecting and opening up of such mines, Take the Rocky Face Knob Mines the Houston Mine they sold $165.00 worth of Mica. and dident pay the royalty on that Mica that lease is in shape for null and voiding, My standing in mining is being jeopardized by them on every mine I obtain leases on, therefore this have stopped, and I am showing them nothing more, and no more mines will be worked under mining and Mining, Inc.,

The main intentions of this letter rider to the former letter is to notify the Defense Minerals Administration that no machinery and equipment as listed in the Farlow Gap Mica Mine will be used, as such machinery and equipment is the personal property of me, and it is not any accets of Mines & Mining Inc., They own nothing, we bought several pieces of equipment including every thin that I listed to be used in the Houston Mica Mine, all of that equiptment have been returned, or Roger Grant tole me another lie, they returned the compressor, we had at the Cely mine, when I was making a sale of Mica every week, send this letter alomg with copies of the former letter to Washington.

Yours sincerely,

/s/
Fred Wilson

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

July 22, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3357 (mica)

Applicant: Mines and Mining, Inc.

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

Date of Field Team Report: July 7, 1954

Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: July 13, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Denial of application.

Comments:

1. Mica encountered at subject mine was of poor quality.
2. Examiners are of the opinion that DMEA exploration is not justified.

Recommendation:

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

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JUL 9 - 1954

July 7, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: Field Examination Report, DMEA-3357 (mica) Minas & Mining, Inc., Asheville, N. C. Houston Mine, Mason County, N. C.

Enclosed are 4 copies of the field team report of examination on the subject application. We are in agreement with the examiners' recommendation for denial of the application.

Although field examination was not requested, the examiners' had to visit the property to get the information requested in your letter of June 24, so they examined the mine while there. Because it so obviously does not warrant approval of a contract, we have not had the Owner's Consent to Mine Forms completed and have not attempted to clarify the boundary descriptions.

Robert A. Lawrence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

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

RAL/ms
cc:
Beck
Lynch
Opr. Com.
Files

Department of
Defense Minerals Exploration
Service
JUL 8 - 1954

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

On

DMEA-3357, HOUSTON MINE (mica)
Macon County, N. C.

By

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

and

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

July 6, 1954

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
On
DMEA-3357, Houston (Littlefield) Mine
(mica)

Applicant: Mines and Mining, Inc. Box 8184, Asheville, North Carolina

An unweathered pegmatite is exposed at two levels by open cuts. The pegmatite is lean in mica and the mica present is of inferior quality. No work is justified and exploration assistance should be denied.

The mine was examined on June 27, 1954. Messrs. Rodger A. Grant, Jr. and Ken Cochran accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The Houston (Littlefield) Mine is 6.5 airline miles northeast of Franklin on the steep south slope of Rocky Face Knob. Access is by way of a steep one-half mile of jeep road to the Rocky Face mine, thence by 500 feet of steep foot trail up the slope to the mine.

The pegmatite trends about N. 20° E. dipping about 60° N. W. Where exposed in two open cuts it ranges in thickness up to 7 feet, but the average thickness is about 4 feet. A short adit extends northeast from the upper cut for about 20 feet along the pegmatite. In this area the pegmatite is only about two feet thick. The pegmatite is composed of a quartz core flanked by feldspathic pegmatite, which consists of plagioclase, a little quartz, muscovite, sulphides and garnet. Mica appears to be concentrated adjacent to the quartz core. The mica is small, hard and ruby colored, but is severely ruled, cracked, bent, contains biotite and sulphide inclusions, and is all small. The examiners do not believe this pegmatite would substain a profitable operation.

Early history of this deposit is not known. The adit was driven by D. E. Worley and W. N. Grimm in 1942 and late in 1944 Fred Wilson worked the deposit for about five months. Recently the applicant secured about 1200 pounds of poor quality book mica by benching in the lower cut.

It is recommended that no further work be considered on the deposit and that the application be denied

Date exam: June 27, 1954

Kefton H. Teague and D. H. Amos,
U. S. Geological Survey

s

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:
G-MD-CRM

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

July 12, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3357 (mica)

To: L. G. Hook, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: Mines and Mining, Inc., Box 8184, Asheville, N. C.
Name of property: Houston Mine.
Location of property: Mason County, N. C.
Date of Field Team Report: July 6, 1954
Authorship of Field Team Report: K. H. Teague, D. H. Amos, and L. E. Shirley.
Field Team's recommendation: Denial.
Comments:
1. Lean in mica.
2. Mica of poor quality.
3. No profitable operation believed possible.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:
Follow Field Team's recommendation.

D. M. Larrabee

Copy to: DMEA (3)

JUN 24 1954

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3357 - Mica Mines and Mining, Inc.
Houston Mica Mine
Macon County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to the subject application for exploration assistance and your memorandum of June 1, 1954.

Prior to field examination, the following problems concerning this application should be resolved:

1. The description of leased property involved is confusing. Does it consist of 900 acres as described in Book of Deeds, Macon County #45, page 327, or is it something else as registered in Book #E, page #83. Whatever it is, we need a metes and bounds description and acreage of the particular property to be explored.

2. To your memorandum of June 1, 1954, were attached eight signed blank copies of Owner's Consent to Lien, which we are returning. Two are signed by Mrs. Grace O'Mebundro covering the area which embraces the Houston Mine and six cover the area to the south which is intended for access and dump purposes. These must be filled out by the signers and in the case of the two involving the Houston Mica Mine, the property to be explored, must have the land description as outlined in Paragraph 1.

3. The willingness of the applicant to pay 25 percent of the accepted cost of exploration has not been clearly indicated.

4. We assume that the Field Team explains to all applicants that in cases such as this one, when the applicant owns the equipment, according to DMEA regulations, only depreciation is allowable in estimating costs, and not

rentals. The estimate should include, in addition to depreciation, a reasonable item for repairs during the period of the project.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

D. M. Larrabee

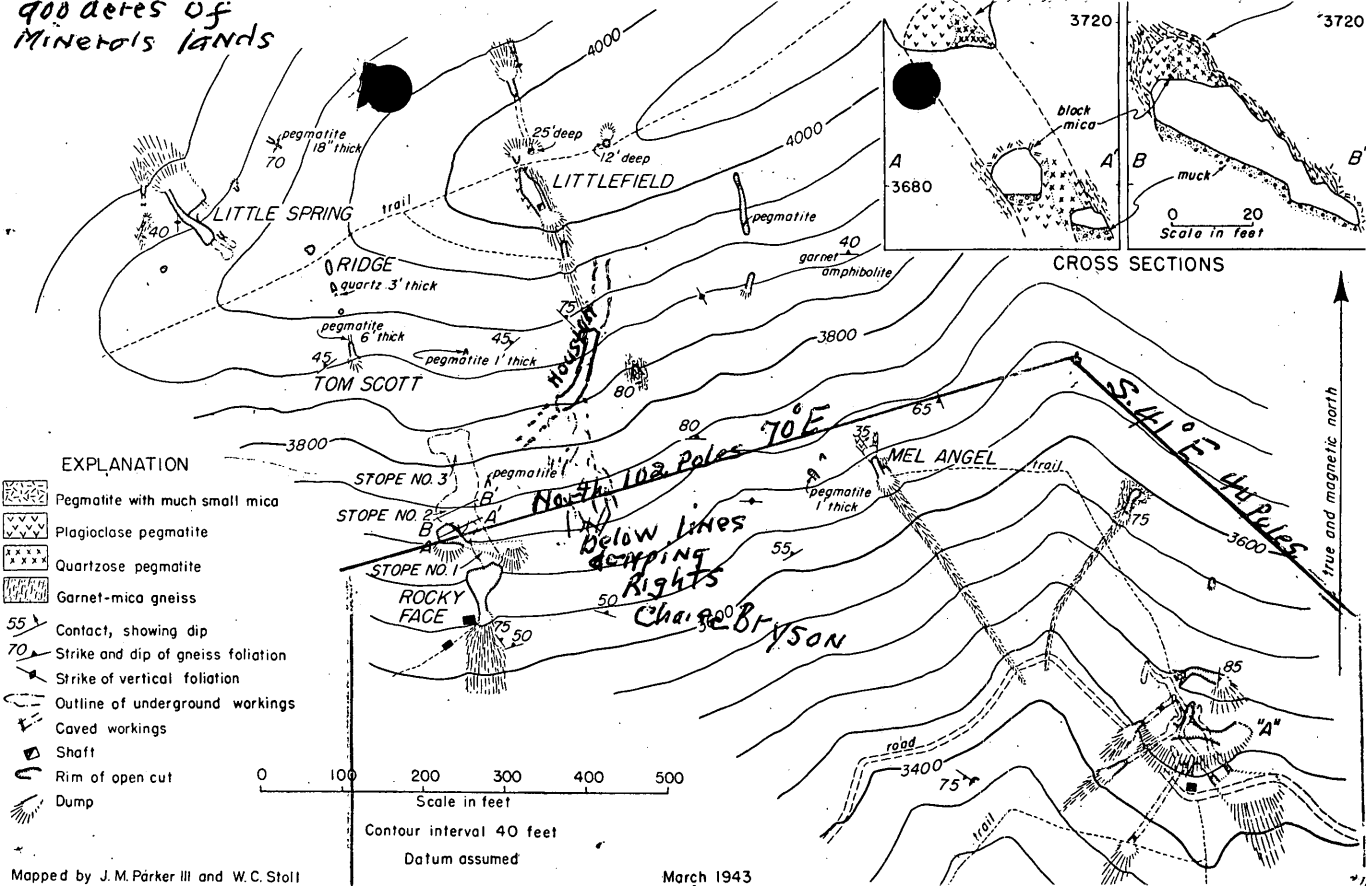
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 12

WCAnderson:gad 6/17/54

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

P.S. We are also returning the four copies of Owner's Consent to Lien on the Houston property, which may need revision. The Owner's Consent to Lien on the Bryson property will not be necessary.


900 acres of Minerals lands
LITTLE SPRING
RIDGE
LITTLEFIELD
TOM SCOTT
HOUSEHOLD
MEL ANGEL
ROCKY FACE
STOPE NO. 3
STOPE NO. 2
STOPE NO. 1
pegmatite 18" thick
quartz 3' thick
pegmatite 6' thick
pegmatite 1' thick
25' deep
12' deep
pegmatite
garnet amphibolite
trail
road
"A"
North 102 Poles 70° E
South 44 Poles
true and magnetic north
Below lines dumping Rights
Chas. E. Bryson
CROSS SECTIONS
black mica
muck
Scale in feet
EXPLANATION
Pegmatite with much small mica
Plagioclase pegmatite
Quartzose pegmatite
Garnet-mica gneiss
Contact, showing dip
Strike and dip of gneiss foliation
Strike of vertical foliation
Outline of underground workings
Caved workings
Shaft
Rim of open cut
Dump
Scale in feet
Contour interval 40 feet
Datum assumed
Mapped by J. M. Parker III and W. C. Stoll
March 1943

75 feet deep at the face. An adit extends northeast for 65 feet from the northeastern corner of the cu
From the end of the adit a crosscut is inclined upward and to the east for 20 feet. A large, irregular sto
65 feet long and as much as 25 f high extends toward the northeast fr he northwestern corner of t
cut. Seventy-five feet south of the main open-cut is a caved adit. As its dump contains no pegmatitic debr
he adit probably did not reach any pegmatite. About 200 feet southwest of the open-cut, and beyond t
napped area, are two shallow, irregular cuts and several caved adits.

The country rock is a fine-grained quartz-biotite gneiss, whose foliation strikes northeast and dips steep
northwest to vertical. Near the main pegmatite body many stringers of quartz are present in the foliati
planes of the gneiss. The pegmatite body is Y-shaped in cross section. The two arms of the Y conver
near the bottom of the face of the open-cut to form a trough, the axis of which plunges to the southwest at
ow angle. The two arms of the Y are exposed on the upper parts of the face and crop out northeast of t
cut. They strike northeast and are vertical. The pegmatite has been explored over a length of 170 feet and
vertical distance of 120 feet. The stem of the Y has a maximum thickness of 20 feet, and the arms range
thickness from 3 to 5 feet.

The pegmatite consists chiefly of plagioclase with varying amounts of biotite, quartz, and muscovite.
general biotite is the most abundant mineral, forming as much as 60% of the rock in some places. It occu
n warped books as much as 8 inches in diameter and in dense aggregates of small flakes. Some of the plagi
clase occurs as euhedral crystals "wrapped" in sheets of biotite that are curved to follow the outlines of ea
crystal. Thin, discontinuous quartz ribs were noted in the south end of the stope from the open-cut.

The most important mica concentration appears to have been along the west wall of the stem of the
and was mined in the open-cut and in the adit from the cut. A subordinate mica zone is exposed in the cros
cut from the adit 10 feet west of the eastern contact of the stem of the Y. In addition, books of mica occur
both arms of the Y, but they are only locally abundant. The mica is dark brown and occurs in books as mu
as 6 inches in diameter. The average diameter, however, is less than 3 inches. The crystals are common
euhedral and are unusually hard. Very little of the mica is warped, but reeves are common. Nearly all of t
books contain a central core of light-spotted mica. Although much of the muscovite is closely associated wi
abundant biotite, intergrowths of muscovite and biotite are uncommon.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JUN - 4 1954

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Room 13, Post Office Building
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

June 1, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Washington, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII

Subject: DMEA-3357, Mines & Mining, Inc.
Houston Mine (Mica), Mason County, North Carolina

Transmitted herewith are two additional copies of Owner's Consent to Lien signed by Mrs. Grace O'Mahundro, six copies of Owner's Consent to Lien on the Bryson property and maps showing the proposed work and property location.

It is our understanding that the Bryson property was leased to provide access and dumping space, and should not be included in the project area.

Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region VII

RAL/mg
Enclosures 11

cc
Beck
Lynch
files
Division File-DMEA

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

June 3, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3357 (mica)

Applicant: Mines and Mining, Inc.

Name and Location of Property: Houston Mica Mines
Macon County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fert. Mtls. Br.: May 19, 1954

Comments:

1. Bureau of Mines records show that 404.56 pounds of full-trimmed mica valued at $2,277.42 and 634 pounds of punch valued at $190.20 were sold from subject mine to Colonial Mica Corp. in 1945.

2. Subject mine is located in general area of productive mica mines.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-ND-CNM

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

May 21, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3357 (mica)

To: L. C. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: Donald A. Brobst, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Mines & Mining, Inc., Box 3184, Asheville, North Carolina.
Name of property: Rocky Face Knob Mines group - Houston (Littlefield) Mine.
Location of property: On S.E. side of Rocky Face Knob, 6.5 airline miles N. 34 W. of Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina.
Summary of applicant's proposal: 100' tunnel at head of the open cut mack for 100' where vein is covered, dose mine road, 10' x 16' tool and mica storage house to be built at the mine. Total estimated cost is $6,170.
Sources of information on applicant's property:

1. Report on p. 46-47 of mica deposits of the Franklin-Sylva dist., N. C., by Olson and others. N. C. Bull. 49, 1946.

2. Supplementary report of Rock Face Mica Mine, Macon County, N. C., by E. W. Heinrich, May 1944 in Survey files.

Comments:

1. Houston (Littlefield) mine is located on Rocky Face Knob where several nearby mines have produced strategic mica.

RECOMMENDATION: Refer to field team for examination.

Donald A. Brobst

Brobst:jeh
5/21/54

cc: Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
DMEA 3
Brobst G-230