600

FEB 3 1955

Messrs. George Mashitt, Howard Dugger
and David Dugger
Elk Park, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMRA-3600 - Mica
George Mashitt, Howard Dugger
and David Dugger
Phillips Mine
Watauga 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,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 2/1/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

February 1, 1955

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and summary report.

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. Docket No. DMEA-3600 - Mica
   Property: Phillips Mine
   Watauga County, North Carolina

   Applicants: George Nesbitt, Howard Dugger and David Dugger
   Elk Park, North Carolina

   Application: Form MF-103 (April 1953), received December 8,1954.
   Work proposed: Strip surface by bulldozing and sink a shaft 100 feet deep.
   Amount requested: $5,915.00
   No contract - application denied.

2. Comments:

   Geological premise - There are no geological indications for the discovery of a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica.

   Geological criteria -
   1. Conformable pegmatite 5 - 6 feet thick.
   2. Feldspathic zones on either side of central 3-foot quartz zone contains scattered mica.
   3. Mica - mineral stained, cracked, bent and "tied".

   Future possibilities: The poor quality and small amount of mica exposed on this property indicates DMEA assistance is not justified.

   Recommendations: The Nonmetallic Minerals Division concurs in Field Team's recommendation to deny the application. The Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines are in agreement.

WCAnderson:gad 2/1/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 26 1955

January 26, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3600 (mica)

Applicant: G. Nesbitt, H. and D. Dugger

Name and Location of Property: Phillips Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: January 11, 1955

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: January 17, 1955

Field Team Recommendation:
1. Denial

Comments:
1. Mica is of poor quality and not abundant.
2. Possibility for discovery of a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica is considered poor.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation to deny this application.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 18 1955

January 17, 1955

Re: DMEA-3600
Nesbitt & Dugger
(Phillips Mine)
Watauga Co., N. C.
$5,915 - Mica

Memorandum

To: L. G. Hank, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team examination report

The Field Team has recommended this application be denied.

The quality and amount of mica exposed on this property indicate DMEA assistance is not justified.

I recommend the application be denied on basis of Field Team examiners' conclusions.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-1/17/55

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061 Interior

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 25 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 13 1955

January 11, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: Field Examination Report, DMEA-3600 (mica) George Nesbitt, Howard & David Dugger. Phillips Mine Watagua County, North Carolina

Transmitted are four copies of the subject examination report. The examination was made without field referral.

We agree with the recommendation to deny the application.

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

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

RAL/sm

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
1-17-55
(date)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 13 1955

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

On

DMEA-3600, PHILLIPS MINE
(mica)
Watauga 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

January 6, 1955

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
1-17-55
(date)

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
JAN 13 1955

On

DMEA-3600, PHILLIPS MINE
(mica)

Applicants: George Nesbitt, Howard and David Dugger, Elk Park, N. C.

Pegmatite present on this property is lean in mica and the mica is of poor quality. No work is justified, thus the application should be denied.

The property was examined on January 6, 1955. Messrs. Howard and Davis Dugger accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The Phillips Mine is near the head of Brushy Branch, 7.5 miles by road and 4 airline miles due north of Boone, Watauga County, North Carolina.

Workings at this place consist of a bench cut inhe hillside with a 12-foot uphill face. This cut has been made along the pegmatite. The applicants have recently cleaned out the cut, exposing the pegmatite. Time of the original work is not known. The cut is 25 feet long and 10 feet wide.

The pegmatite is 5-6 feet thick, conformable to the hornblende gneiss wall rock, trends N. 40° E. and dips 50° S. E. It contains a 3-foot quartz core bounded on both sides by feldspathic zones which contain plagioclase, garnet, small quartz, and scattered mica. The mica seems to be concentrated in thin small books along cracks and seams in the feldspathic portion.

Mica is not abundant, either in place or in the dump. It is ruby colored and hard. All is mineral stained, cracked, bent, and "tied." Most of the books exhibit "A" structure and are small. Very little strategic mica could be obtained from the deposit.

The application should be denied.

January 6, 1955.

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

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

ROOM 13 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

December 31, 1954

Memorandum

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

From: Acting Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII

Subject: Owner's Consent to Lien from George Nesbitt, Howard Dugger and David Dugger of Elk Park, North Carolina
DMEA-3600, Phillips Mine (mica), Watauga County, N. C.

Transmitted are six copies of Form MF-203, Owner's Consent to Lien on the above designated docket.

Wm. A. Beck

WAB
Enclosures 6
cc
Division File-DMEA
Beck
Lynch
files

DOCKET FILE
Surname:
Anderson

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

600

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

Subject: Docket No, DMEA-3600 - Mica
George Nesbitt, Howard Dugger
and David Dugger
Phillips Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

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

Please note the land description given by the applicant. It is inadequate since the metes and bounds do not describe accurately a closed traverse, nor is the location of the proposed project indicated in the description of the two tracts of land. There was no sketch attached to the application as mentioned in 4 (c).

If a contract is recommended, please advise the field team to obtain an adequate description of the land involved in the exploration project. This must be a legal description that gives the bearings and distances of the lines which enclose the property to be explored. The property must be referenced to a permanent and identifiable landmark, natural or artificial, as the center of a shaft, adit, building, benchmark, etc. This description must be written on the lease and the Owner's Consent to Lien. Whenever a map is available it would be most helpful.

The Owner's Consent to Lien does not become effective unless a contract is granted and a certification of discovery is made. If the land owners object to signing Owner's Consent to Lien without the date specified, it will be sufficient to have the owners indicate in writing they will sign Owner's Consent to Lien if a contract is offered.

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey, dated December 14, 1954, and from the Bureau of Mines, dated January 11, 1955, are enclosed for your information.

Approved:

Sincerely yours,

Not Sent

Member, Bureau of Mines

Chairman, Operating Committee

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

WCAnderson:ad 1/12/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

DOCKET FILE
Surname:
Anderson

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

600

Messrs. George Nesbitt, Howard Dugger
and David Dugger
Elk Park, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3600 - Mica
George Nesbitt, Howard Dugger
and David Dugger
Phillips Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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.

Please be advised that the lease attached to your application did not contain an adequate legal description of the property you wish to have explored. Your application will be held in abeyance until such information is furnished, written in on the lease as well as the Owner's Consent to Lien, seven copies of which have been forwarded to you by the Regional Office for execution.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date if an examination is to be made, at which time they will advise you concerning an adequate land description. Any assistance that you may give the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Administrator

Not sent

WCAnderson:ad 1/12/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

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

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED

January 11, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3600 (mica)

Applicant: G. Nesbitt, H. Dugger, and D. Dugger

Name and Location of Property: Phillips Mine, Watauga County
North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceram. & Fert. Mat.: Dec. 9, 1954

Comments:

1. From limited information presented, it is difficult to determine if an exploration program is justified or if proposed plan is the logical plan.

2. It appears a field examination is necessary to determine the feasibility of a project.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified. If so, the field team and applicant should agree on a definite plan of exploration on a unit-cost basis.

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

December 14, 1954

No: DMEA-300
Hewitt & Dugger
(Phillips Mine)
Watauga Co., N. C.
$5,915 - Mica

Memorandum

To: L. G. Hook, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of application

The applicant proposes a project involving bulldozing and 100 feet of shaft sinking.

We do not have any appropriate data on this mine.

I recommend this application be referred to the Field Team for their review and recommendations. An examination should be made if they believe it is necessary.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-12/14/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061 Interior