DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
Control Slip

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

DMA Docket No. 4229

DO NOT DETACH THIS SLIP

Action on this document is recorded and controlled in Reports and Records Branch. Any movement of this document between divisions or offices of DMA or movement outside DMA must be reported to the Reports and Records Branch. Actions taken that affect status of the case must also be reported.

This document has been recorded as

Exploration

Any action taken to change the type of request for assistance must be promptly reported to the Reports and Records Branch. Use DMA Form 2 for submitting these reports.

Cys. BM, GS, Region V

Routing Slip

To:	600	Date	3/28/56
To:	Mr. Hopkins	Date	3/29/56
To:	Oper Com	Date	4-5-56
To:	J.E. Johnson	Date	4-6-56
To:	CJM	Date	4-6-56
To:	Oper Com	Date	8-15-56
To:	J.E. Johnson	Date	8-15-56
To:	CJM	Date	8-15-56
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	
To:		Date	

DO NOT DETACH

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator
Docket No. DMEA-
Contract No. Idm-E
Contract Date

CONSENT TO LIEN

RECEIVED
MAR 28 1956

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of Mitchell, State of North Carolina, described as follows:1/ Being that certain tract or parcel of land containing (15) acres more or less, being a part of the Steve Ledford land lying along the South slope of the Middle Ridge and running down to the Green Creek road. See Deed Book #117, Page #431, for a fuller description of this tract of land.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

NONE

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

AGREES

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book 117 page 431 official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

NONE

Dated this 26th day of March, 1956.

X Steve Ledford [Seal]

X Stella Ledford [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator
Docket No. DMEA-
Contract No. Idm-E
Contract Date

CONSENT TO LIEN

RECEIVED
MAR 28 1956

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of Mitchell, State of North Carolina, described as follows:1/ Being that certain tract or parcel of land containing (15) acres more or less, being a part of the Steve Lodford land lying along the South slope of the Middle Ridge and running down to the Green Creek road. See Deed Book #117, Page #431, for a fuller description of this tract of land.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

NONE

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

AGREED

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book 117 page 431 official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

NONE

Dated this 26th day of March, 1956.

x Steve Ledford [Seal]

x Stella Ledford [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator
Docket No. DMEA-
Contract No. Idm-E
Contract Date

RECEIVED
MAR 28 1955

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of Mitchell, State of North Carolina, described as follows:1/ Being that certain tract or parcel of land containing (15) acres more or less, being a part of the Steve Ledford land lying along the South slope of the Middle Ridge and running down to the Green Creek road. See Deed Book # 117, Page # 43), for a fuller description of this tract of land.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

NONE

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

AGREED

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book 117 page 43) official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

NONE

Dated this 26th day of March, 1956.

x Leo Ledford [Seal]

x Stella Ledford [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator
Docket No. DMEA-
Contract No. Idm-E
Contract Date

RECEIVED
MAR 28 1956

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of Mitchell, State of North Carolina, described as follows:1/ Being that certain tract or parcel of land containing (15) acres more or less, being a part of the Steve Ledford land lying along the South slope of the Middle Ridge and running down to the Green Creek road. See Deed Book #117, Page #431, for a fuller description of this tract of land.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

NONE

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

AGREES

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book 117 page 431 official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

NONE

Dated this 26th day of March, 1956.

x Steve Ledford [Seal]

x Stella Ledford [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

MF-203
Revised March 24, 1955

For Government's Use Only
EXPLORATION PROJECT CONTRACT
Operator
Docket No. DMEA-
Contract No. Idm-E
Contract Date

RECEIVED
MAR 28 1956

CONSENT TO LIEN

To the United States of America:

Referring to that certain land in the County of Mitchell, State of North Carolina, described as follows:1/ Being that certain tract or parcel of land containing (15) acres more or less, being a part of the Steve Ledford land lying along the South slope of the Middle Ridge and running down to the Green Creek road. See Deed Book #117, Page #43), for a fuller description of this tract of land.

which is the subject of a proposed exploration project contract, hereinafter called the "contract," with the United States of America, hereinafter called the "Government;" in consideration of the contract and as an inducement to the Government to enter into it, the undersigned hereby--

1. Undertakes and agrees that property in which the Government may acquire an interest or equity under the contract may be dismantled, severed from the land, and removed, as may be provided in the contract; and the Government's interest and equity in such property shall be prior and superior to any adverse right or claim of the undersigned;

2. Grants to the Government a lien upon all of the undersigned's right, title, and interest in the land and upon any production of minerals therefrom to secure the payment to the Government of a percentage royalty on production as may be provided for by the contract;2/ and represents and undertakes that there are no claims, liens, or encumbrances upon the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land prior to that hereby granted to the Government other than the following:3/

NONE

3. Undertakes and agrees neither to commit any act nor assert any claim in conflict with the provisions of this Consent to Lien; and to give advance notice of the Government's rights under this Consent to Lien to any subsequent transferee, mortgagee, encumbrancer, or lessee of any of the undersigned's right, title, or interest in the land; and

AGREED

1/ Either (a) insert the legal description of the land, or (b) strike out the words "as follows" and insert "in a lease [or contract, deed, or other document] dated _____, and recorded in book 117, page 43) official records of said county." If (b) is used, the book and page of recordation cannot be dispensed with. If the space provided is insufficient, use an Annex, and refer to the Annex in the space.

2/ Mining or production from the land is not required, and in the absence of production there is no obligation to repay the Government.

3/ Write "none" if that is the case. Do not leave lines blank.

4. Consents to all amendments and assignments of the contract without notice thereof, and agrees that this Consent to Lien shall extend and apply thereto.

5. Added provision: _____

Dated this 26th day of March, 1956.

X Steve Ledford [Seal]

X Stella Ledford [Seal]

_____ [Seal]

I, _____ certify that I am the _____ (Secretary, etc.) of the corporation named herein; that _____ who signed this agreement was then _____ (President or Vice-President, etc.) of said corporation; that said agreement was duly signed for and in behalf of said corporation by authority of its governing body, and was within the scope of its corporate powers.

_____

[Corporate Seal]

DOCKET COPY
Surname:

Houk
Wilson
Lamb
Selfridge
Fitzsimmons

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

AUG 16 1956

Mr. Steve Ledford
Route #1
Bakersville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4229-mica
Steve Ledford
Ledford Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ledford:

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 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

JHopkins:ms 8/14/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Admr. R. File

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C. 600

August 14, 1956

Memorandum

To: Mr. C. O. Mittendorf, Administrator

From: Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and Summary Report

By: James Hopkins

1. Docket No. DMEA-4229-mica
Property: Ledford Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina
Applicant: Steve Ledford
Route #1 Bakersville, North Carolina
Application:
dated March 26, 1956
Work proposed:

Shaft 50 feet	?
Drifting 100 feet	?
Buildings	$115.00
Bulldozing	$300.00
Total proposed cost	$4741.39

No contract - application denied.

2. Comments:

A bulldozer trench 150'x20' wide exposes 3 or 4 lenticular pegmatites, conformable in a badly weathered migmatitic gneiss. The largest is 20 ft. long by 2 ft. thick. They are composed chiefly of sodic plagioclase and disseminated quartz with approximately 2% small, flat, ruby muscovite. Muscovite is chiefly in the Nos. 5 and 6 sizes, contain some biotite and iron oxide and hair cracking.

Because of the lack of any continuous or sizeable structure, plus the limited size, quality and quantity of strategic mica, the Field Team recommended that the application be denied.

The Nonmetallic Minerals Division and the Commodity Divisions of the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines concur in the recommendation.

James Hopkins
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Denial letter to Applicant

Memorandum — Date: day of typing

To: Administrator

From: L. G. Hook, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A brief explanation, assistance and sampling report

By: James Hopkins

1. Docket No. DMEA 4229-Nica

Property: Ledford Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Applicant: Steve Ledford
Route #1, Bakersville, North Carolina

Application: March 26, 1956

Work Proposed

Shaft 50 feet	?
Drifting 100 feet	?
Bulldozing	115.00
Bulldozing	300.00
Total	4741.00

No Contract. Application denied

2. Comments:

A bulldozer trench 150' x 20' wide exposes 3 or 4 lenticular pegmatites, conformable in a badly weathered migmatitic gneiss. The largest is approximately 5 x 2 ft. They are composed chiefly of sodic plagioclase and cloudy quartz with approximately 2% small flat ruby muscovite. Muscovite is chiefly in the Nos. 5 and 6 sizes, contains some biotite and iron oxide and has cracking.

Because of the lack of any continuity of

sizeable structures, plus the limited size, quality and quantity of strategic mica, the Field Team recommended that the application be denied.

The Nonmetallic Minerals Division and the Commodity Divisions of the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines concur in the recommendation.

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

RECEIVED
AUG 13 1956

August 10, 1956

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: W. F. Dietrich, Chief
Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-4229 (mica)

Applicant: S. Ledford

Name and Location of Property: Ledford Mine, Mitchell County, N. C.

Date of Field Team Report: 7/27/56

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 8/2/56

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend denial of application.

Comments:

1. No sizable pegmatite structure was disclosed by considerable bulldozing.

2. Geological factors show that this deposit is unlikely to produce any sizable quantities of strategic mica.

Recommendation:

I concur with the field team's recommendation for denial.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

RECEIVED
AUG - 6 1956

Aug 3, 1956

Re: DMEA 4229
Steve Ledford
Ledford mine
Mitchell Co., N. C.
$4,741.39 - Mica

Memorandum

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

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of Field Team report.

The applicant requested assistance in exploring a 2-foot pegmatite, "... 20 inches of which is a rich mica-bearing streak."

The examiners found the pegmatite occurs in short narrow lenses and the mica contained "is chiefly in the No. 5 and 6 sizes, contains some biotite, is iron stained and shows hair cracks."

As the pegmatite is discontinuous and contains little or no strategic mica, the examiners and the Field Team recommend denial of the application.

I concur with that recommendation.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

July 27, 1956

Memorandum

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

From: Field Team - DMEA - Region V - Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: Field Examination Reports (Mica)

Enclosed are four copies of each of the following field examination reports:

DMEA-4204 - Bessemer City Mica Company
DMEA-4213 - Lewis Aldridge
DMEA-4229 - Steve Ledford
DMEA-4231 - Robert L. McKinney

Two of these (4204 and 4231) were examined without field referral, to avoid duplication of travel.

None of these four applications shows sufficient promise to justify the expenditure of exploration money, and we agree with the field examiners' recommendation that each of them should be denied.

Robert A. Laurence
Executive Officer

V. J. Lynch
Member, Bureau of Mines

RAL/mg
Enclosures 4
cc - Operating Committee (3)
Mr. V. J. Lynch
Mr. L. E. Shirley
Files

DMEA
8/3/56
(230)

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1953

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

ON

DMEA-4229, LEDFORD PROSPECT (mica)
Mitchell County, N.C.

By

S. C. Bergman, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

and

A. L. Peyton, Mining Engineer
U.S. Bureau of Mines

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
8/3/56
(date)

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1956

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

On

DMEA-4229, LEDFORD PROSPECT (mica)
Mitchell County, N. C.

Applicant: Steve Ledford, R#1. Bakersville, North Carolina

Summary:

A large northeast-southwest trending bulldozer trench has uncovered 3 or 4 small lenticular pegmatites up to 20 ft in length and a maximum of 1 1/2 ft thick. About 2 lbs. of small trimmed sheet was recovered from about 1,000 cu. yds. of bulldozing. The absence of any sizeable structures, leads the Examiners to recommend that the application be denied.

Location:

The Prospect is located on the south slope of Middle Ridge adjacent to the Green Creek road at an elevation of approximately 3700 feet. It is 1.3 airline miles N 82° E from the bench mark at Glen Ayre on the Carver Gap N. C. Quad. TVA. Ed. 1934;(1/24,000).

Introduction:

Mr. Steve Ledford accompanied the Examiners on the examination which took place April 11, 1956 and required about 1 hour. The bulldozing was done on a steep 50% slope about 200 feet above the Green Creek road. Access is by foot from the road. No equipment or buildings are presently at the site.

Geology:

A trench has been excavated from the steep hillside about 150 ft long by 20 ft wide, exposing 3 or 4 small lenticular pegmatites oriented roughly N 40° E 80° NW. They are conformable in a badly weathered migmatitic gneiss. The largest structure is about 20 ft long by 2 ft thick, and others ranging from 2 to 10 ft long and up to 1 foot thick. They are composed chiefly of sodic plagioclase and disseminated quartz with approximately 2% small flat

ruby muscovite. The muscovite is chiefly in the No.5 and 6 sizes and contains some biotite and iron oxide staining and hair cracking.

Conclusions:

The lack of any continuous or sizeable structures, plus the limited size, quality and quantity of strategic muscovite is strong evidence for recommending that this application be denied.

July 24, 1956

z

S. C. Bergman, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

A. L. Peyton, Mining Engineer
US Bureau of Mines

DOCKET COPY
Surname:

Hopkins
Houk
Gerhan
Nelson
Selfridge
Johnson

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

APR 6 1956

Mr. Steve Ledford
Route #1
Bakersville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4229-Mica
Steve Ledford
Ledford Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ledford:

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. Lawrence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V, 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 you may give the members of the Field Team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

G. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

JHopkins:ms 4/5/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Mr. Hopkins
Admr. R. File

P.C.G.

DOCKET COPY
Surname:

Hopkins
Houk
Selfridge
Kjosen

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

600

APR 6 1956

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

Re: Docket No. DMEA-4229-Misc
Steve Ledford
Ledford Mine
Mitchell 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 dated March 29 and April 3, 1956, by Mr. N. E. Nelson, USGS, and Mr. W. F. Dietrich, USBM, respectively, relating to the project are enclosed.

If a contract is recommended please have applicant obtain legal description from County Recorder's office for Annex I.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee (GCS)

Approved:

/s/ Robert W. Geehan (GCS)
Member, Bureau of Mines

N. E. Nelson (GCS)
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures: 4

JHopkins:ms 4/5/56
Copy to: Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Mr. Hopkins
Admr. R. File

RCS.

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

April 3, 1956

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-4229 (mica)

Applicant: Steve Ledford

Name and Location of Property: Ledford Mine, Mitchell Co., N. C.

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 3/29/56

Comments:

1. This is a new prospect and no data available in this office on this property.

2. This deposit appears to have possibilities for the development of strategic mica.

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

W. F. Dietrich

RECEIVED
APR 3 - 1956

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

RECEIVED
APR 1 - 1956

March 29, 1956

Re: DMEA 4229 H
Steve Ledford
Ledford Mine
Mitchell Co., N. C.
$4,741.39 - Mica

Memorandum

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

From: N. E. Nelson, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Review of application.

The applicant requests assistance in exploring by bulldozing and underground work a pegmatite at least 2 feet thick, 20 inches of which is a 'rich mica-bearing streak'.

The work proposed consists of:--

Bulldozing, 30 hours	$ 300.00
Shaft sinking (50') and drifting (100')	3,063.79
Tool house and magazines	115.00
Miscellaneous	257.60
Rental, equipment	705.00
Contingencies	300.00
Total	$4,741.39

Referral to the Field Team for appropriate action is recommended.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

March 28, 1956
Subject: DMEA-4229
Re: Exploration Assistance
Ledford Mine

Mr. Steve Ledford
Rt. 1
Bakersville, North Carolina

My dear Mr. Ledford:

The receipt of your application dated March 26, 1956, for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-4229 and referred to the Nonmetallic Minerals Division.

Kindly identify all future correspondence relating to your application by this docket number.

Sincerely yours,

Robert E. Adams, Chief
Operations Control and
Statistics Division

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

Original mail

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

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

RECEIVED
MAR 28 1956

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-4229
Metal or Mineral Mica
Date Received 3-28-56
Estimated Cost $3,556.04
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:

Steve Ledford,
Rt. 1.
Bakersville, 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 Being that certain tract or parcel of land containing (15) acres more or less being a part of the Steve Ledford land lying along the South slope of the Middle Ridge and running down to the Green Creek road. See Deed Book #117, Page 431, for fuller description

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. Ledford Mine

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise Owner of tract of land on which mine is located

(*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 No liens or encumbrances on this property

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice. None.

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. (see attached sheets)

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

(*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. do

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

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

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

(*c*) The work will start within 10 days and be completed within 3 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. (see attached sheets)

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: do

(*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.). None

(*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. (See attached sheets)

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

(*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. do

(*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. do

(*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. do

(*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. do

(*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?

[X] Money [ ] Use of equipment owned by you [X] Other LABOR

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 March 26th, 195 6

x Steve Selfhood (Applicant)

By Rt. 1.

Bakersville, North Carolina

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

SUPPLEMENT SHEET NO. 1.
--RE--
FORM MF-103, (Revised)

Re: LEDFORD, Steve
Rt.1.
Bakersville, N.C.

Section 4-(a) PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION.

The muscovite mica prospect herein referred to as the" Ledeford Mine" is located on the property of Mr. Steve Ledford, in Little Rock Creek Township, Mitchell County, North Carolina.

The prospect lys on the southeast side of a ridge known as the Middle Ridge running nearly due North & South. The prospect being about 300 feet from the Green Creek public road and near the crest of the said Middle Ridge at a point some 500 feet NW of the home of Mr. Steve Ledford. There has been some previous working done at the prospect by means of a bulldozer and small scale hand operation. At present time there is an open pit some 30 feet wide by 50 feet long by 30 feet deep on the high wall side of the ridge but probably not over 10 feet deep on the lower side of the open pit or cut. This work was done by the applicant above named assisted by two other workers. The excavation work done todate has exposed the hanging wall slate on the high side of the cut and has exposed a portion of the pegmatite body in the floor of the cut. There has not been sufficient work done as yet to determine fully the width of the pegmatite body but a very rich mica bearing streak approximately 20 inches wide has been uncovered. The prospect is easy to reach by path leading from the Green Creek public road to the project a distance of about 300 feet from road to prospect.

Sect. 4-(b) PAST AND CURRENT PRODUCTION.

The prospect is not being operated at thepresent time but was operated for a short period recently by the owner and two other workers using a bulldozer for purpose of uncovering the mica vein. During this period of operation about 200 lbs of crude ruby muscovite mica was recovered. Of the mica recovered in books, roughly 100 lbs remains in books unworked. About 6 pounds of good grade punch and pattern has been trimmed from the other approximately 100 pounds recovered during this breif period of mining. The mica is of good color (ruby) and fine texture and exceptionaly free of reeves, cracks, stains and other defects. The books run small to medium size the average book being 3" to 4" in diamiter with a few larger books recovered. No previous mining history is available. No other visible signs of any previous mining near by was observed.

Sect. 4-(c) GEOLOGIC DATA OF PROSPECT.

The pegmatite body has not been penetrated to a depth sufficient yet to determine the size of the body but from present visible signs it appears to be at least two feet thick between slates although the footwall slate has hot as yet been exposed. The pegmatite strikes a course roughly northeast & southwest pitching to the south-southeast at a gentle 20 to 25 degree slope. That part of the body now exposed is composed of feldspar (soda) quartz pods and some granite. The quartz core seems to be broken up and is intermingled with extra rich micaformation of clusters of books. No doubt at a deeper depth the core will tend to be more permanent as the body developes more fully. Present indications and visible geologic datum looks well for uncovering a muscovite mica deposit of value if properly developed.

Sect. 4-(d) ACESSIBILITY OF PROJECT.

The purposed mica project is located about 300 feet N.W. off a good gravel road which intersects with N.C. state highway 226 at Glen Ayre stores approximately 1-1/2 miles NW of the proposed mining site. It is approximately 7-1/2 miles from the propose

SUPPLEMENT SHEET NO.2.
--RE--
FORM MF-103,(Revised)

Re: LEDFORD, Steve
Rt.1.
Bakersville, N.C.

Sect. 4-(d) con. ACESSIBILITY OF PROJECT.

mining project to Bakersville, N.C. via the Green Creek (gravel) road and N.C. # 226, (Hardtopped). The nearest railway shipping point is located at Toecane, N.C. on the Clinchfield Railway and the nearest supply point is at Bakersville, N.C. 7-1/2 miles away over the above named roads. The nearest residence is that of the owner and applicant, Mr. Steve Ledford, being about 500 feet SE of the proposed mining site.

Sect. 4-(e) MANPOWER, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, ECTS.

Sufficient experienced manpower is ready available in the community where the proposed project is located. Ample materials, supplies and mining equipment are also available at Bakersville, N.C. or at Spruce Pine, N.C. A powerline runs within 500 feet of the proposed project and ample water supply for mining purposes can be supplied from a spring and branch located within 300 feet of the proposed mining project.

Sect. 5-(b) PROPOSED EXPLORATORY WORK.

It is estimated that it will require about 10 more hours work with a bulldozer pushing off and futher uncovering the vein. Also about 16 to 20 hours work with a bulldozer pushing out a road to the mining site. This road would be approximately 500 feet long connecting with the Green Creek graveled road at a point just north of the mining site. After the vein was fully uncovered by the bulldozer, it is proposed that a shaft, 5'X 7' in diamiter be sunk down and with the pitch of the vein to the depth of 50 feet. At this level, an exploratory adit 5' X 7' would be run off both ways from the main shaft along the general run of the main pegmatite body, NE--SW, for a distance of 50 feet each way from the center of the main shaft, thus a shaft 50 ft. deep and 2 drifts 50 ft. each or a total of 150 feet of shaft and drifts. There would be no contacts with any old mining works at any point in this proposed exploratory project.

Sect. 5-(d) MINING QUALIFICATIONS OF WORKERS.

The applicant will take an active part in the proposed operation. He has had about two years experience in mining but the actual supervision of the proposed mining project will be directly under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Gouge, who has had 10 or more years of actual mining experience. All hired labor will be experienced miners with two years or more actual mining experience in mica or other underground minerals.

Sect. 6- ESTIMATE OF PROJECT COSTS.

6-(a) Independent Contracts.--NONE.

6-(b) LABOR SUPERVISION & CONSULTANTS. (12) Week Period)

No.	Class	Hr. Rate	Weekly Rate.	Monthly Rate.	12 Week Rate 480 Hours.
1	Supervisor	$ 1.50	$ 60.00	$ 240.00	$ 720.00
1	Drill Operator	1.25	50.00	200.00	600.00
1	Hoist Operator	1.25	50.00	200.00	600.00
2	Muckers @ 1.00 hr.	2.00	80.00	320.00	960.00
5 Man Crew----------		6.00	240.00	960.00	2880.00

SUPPLEMENT SHEET NO. 3.
--RE--
FORM MF-103, (Revised)

Re: LEDFORD, Steve
Rt.1.
Bakersville, N.C.

Sect. 6-(c) OPERATING MATERIALS & SUPPLIES--(Purchase Basis)

Unit.	Items.	No. Units.	Unit Cost.	12 Wk Cost.	Total
Gal.	Gasoline	400	$ 0.22	$ 88.00	$ 88.00
Qts.	Motor Oil	72	.20	14.40	14.40
Ea.	Lubricator	1	20.00	20.00	20.00
Ft.	1½"Pipeing	126	.16½	20.79	20.79
Lbs.	Dynamite	300	.25	75.00	75.00
Ea.	6' Exploders	300	.14	42.00	42.00
Ft.	Air Hose	50	.60	30.00	30.00
Ft.	Drill Steels	24	(Tung'n) ---	153.60	153.60
Ea.	El. Blasting Batty	1	25.00	25.00	25.00
Ft.	Lead Line	100	.10	10.00	10.00
Ea.	Mine Bucket	1	5.00	5.00	5.00
TOTALS----------				$ 483.79	$ 483.79

Sect. 6-(d) OPERATING EQUIPMENT. (Monthly Rental Basis)

Unit.	Items.	No. Units.	Mo. Rental	12 Week Costs.
Ea.	Air Compressor	1	$ 150.00	$ 450.00
Ea.	Jackhammer Drill	1	50.00	150.00
Ea.	1 Ton Hoist	1	35.00	105.00
TOTALS----------		3	-------$ 235.00	$ 705.00

Sect. 6-(e) REHABILITATION & REPAIRS. (None)

Sect. 6-(f) NEW BLDGS & INSTALLATIONS. (Purchase Basis)

Unit.	Item.	No. Units.	Unit Cost	12 Wk. Costs.
Ea.	Tool House	1	$ 75.00	$ 75.00
Ea.	P. Magazine	1	25.00	25.00
Ea.	Exp. Magazine	1	15.00	15.00
TOTALS----------		3	-----$ 115.00	$115.00

Sect. 6-(g) MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Federal Payroll tax @ 2% of $2880.00 (12 Week Period)	$ 57.60
Employers Liability Ins. (Groupe) (Estimated)	100.00
Employees Ins. (Groupe) (Estimated)	100.00
TOTALS----------	-$ 257.60

Sect. 6-(h) CONTINGENCIES.

30 Hours Bulldozer Work @ $ 10.00 per Hr.---------- (Pushing off vein & road building)	$ 300.00
TOTALS----------	$ 300.00

Sect. 7-(a) ARE YOU PREPARED TO FURNISH 25% OF PROJECT COST?-----(YES)

Sect. 7-(b) EXPLINATION OF OPERATORS 25% PARTICIPA TION IN PROJECT COST.

The Operator (applicant) will meet 25% of the total costs of the proposed mica exploration project by meeting $ 1185.35 of the $ 2880.00 cost of labor & Supervision incurred in the mining operation. In addition, applicant will supply all small tools necessary for the operation.

SUPPLEMENT SHEET NO. 4.
--RE--
FORM MF-103, (Revised)

Re: LEDFORD, Steve
Rt.1.
Bakersville, N.C.

RECAPITULATION OF ESTIMATED COSTS OF PROJECT
------- BY UNITS-------

Unit.	Daily Est Cost.	Weekly Est Cost.	Monthly Est Cost.	12 Week Period Est Cost.
Labor & Supervision	$ 48.00	$ 240.00	$ 960.00	$ 2880.00
Opr'g Mat. & Supplies	8.05	40.25	161.00	483.79
Opr'g Equipment	11.75	58.75	235.00	705.00
Bldgs & Installations	1.92	9.58	38.33	115.00
Miscellaneous Exps.	4.29	21.47	85.87	257.60
Contingencies	5.00	25.00	100.00	300.00
TOTALS----------	$ 79.00	$ 395.05	$ 1580.20	$ 4741.39

A GENERAL SUMMARY OF PROJECT EXPENSES AND
THE GOVERNMENT & OPERATORS PARTICIPATION

TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS OF PROJECT, (12 WEEK PERIOD)---------$ 4741.39

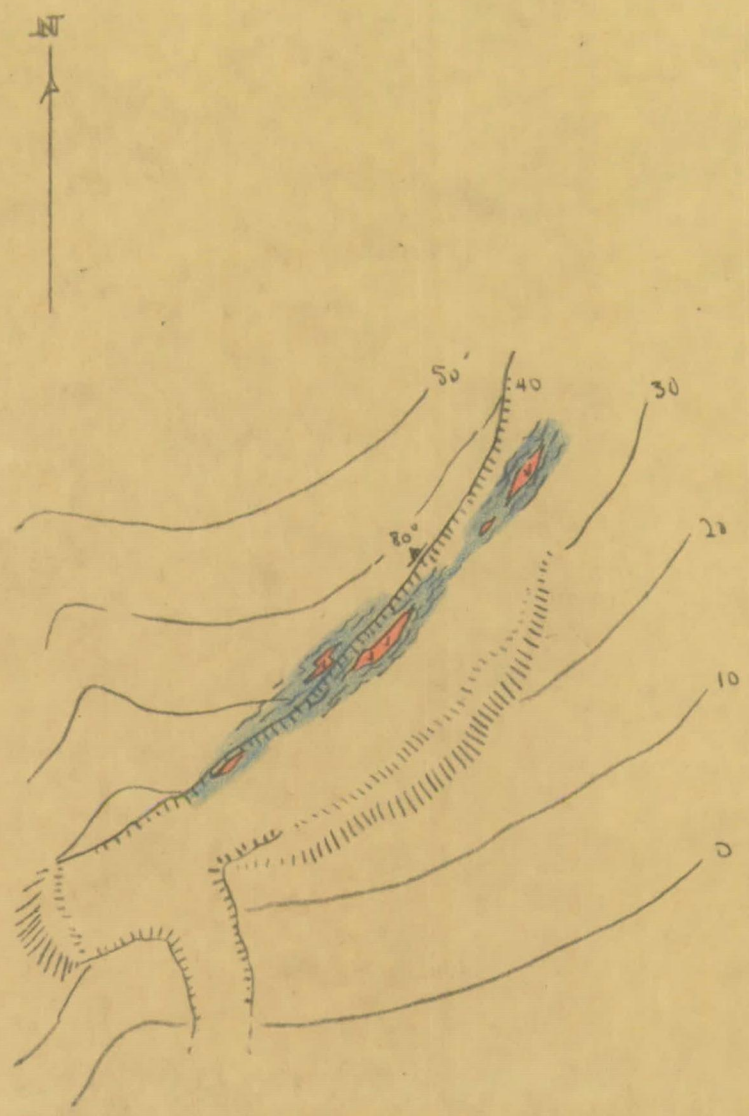
OPERATORS SHARE OF THE ABOVE @ 25% OF ESTIMATED COSTS-------$ 1185.35

TOTAL AMT OF LOAN SOLICITED-75% OF EST COST OF PROJECT-----$ 3556.04

Respectfully submitted,

Applicant & Land Owner
Rt.1.
Bakersville, North Carolina.

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1956



LEDFORD PROSPECT

MITCHELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
DMEA -4229 (MICA)

LEGEND

- LENTICULAR PEGMATITE
- MICA GNEISS
- BULL DOZER CUT
- DUMP

SCALE 1" = 40'

7/56