DMA Form 1

DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINISTRATION
Control Slip

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT

DMEA ~~DMA~~ Docket No. 2660

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 PROJECT

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.

Routing Slip

Copies to USBM, USGS, and Region VIII.

To:	Code 600, Rm. 4637	Date	8-19-52
To:	Robertson	Date	8/19/52
To:	Og. Ann	Date	10-24-52.
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FILE COPY
SURNAME:

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

June 3, 1953

Memorandum

To: Mr. Robert E. Adams
Thru Mr. F. E. Johnson

From: Lawrence G. Houk

Subject: Denied dockets not to be reactivated.

The following dockets:

DMEA-2754 Charles E. Jefferson - Rutile
DMEA-2660 John C. Merrill - Mica (Phlogopite)

were denied by letter on May 18th by the restrictive order. The application of John R. Nelson (undocketed) was denied on May 21st under the restrictive directive. All three projects are of questionable merit and it is felt that no useful purpose would be gained in reactivating these cases after denial.

Should the applicants inquire the dockets will be reactivated and processed.

LGHouk:gad 6/3/53

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File (DMEA-2754)
Docket File (DMEA-2660)
Records File (Nelson)
Mr. Houk

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

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

600

Houk

MAY 18 1953

Mr. John C. Merrill
30 North Fourth Street
Easton, Pennsylvania

Re: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
(Phlogopite)
Merrill Mica Mine
Warren County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Merrill:

This is to inform you that, effective April 15, 1953, the commitment of funds allocated to the DMEA for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act was restricted to certain specified metals and minerals still in short supply. Mica (phlogopite) was not specified, and consequently was automatically removed from the list of metals or minerals eligible for exploration assistance.

I regret to advise you that, since your application relates to mica (phlogopite) and was pending on the date of the restrictive order, we are without authority or funds to enter into a contract for exploration, and your application is accordingly denied. This action is taken without prejudice to the merits of your proposed project.

The staff of the DMEA wishes to express its appreciation for your interest in the exploration program and for your cooperation during the period your application has been under consideration.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

S.H.
5-18-53

LGHouk:gad 5/15/53
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VIII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Robertson
Mitchendorf

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

DEC 19 1952

Mr. John C. Merrill
30 North 4th Street
Easton, Pennsylvania

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660
Phlogopite Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Warren County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Merrill:

The examination of the Merrill Mica Mine by the Field Team, Region VIII, unfortunately was very uninformative, as there was so little to observe. The old workings, virtually obliterated, are now evidenced only by surface depressions, and without mineral exposures.

It seems that the outlining of a project would depend on your knowledge of the operations of the mine some 40 years ago, rather than on the present observable evidence. You are probably best informed on this, and we, therefore, would prefer that you outline an exploration project to add to your application. We suggest that it be set up in two or more stages. Starting with a first stage of surface bulldozing, to be followed by a second stage of drifting or test pits.

Your application did not contain a definite project or estimate of costs. This we wish you to submit and, upon receipt, we assure you it will receive full and careful consideration.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

JTRobertson:gad 12/19/52

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

J.H.
12-19-52

DMEA-2660

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Federal Supply Service
34 Exchange Place
Jersey City, New Jersey

December 15, 1952

Mr. Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
DEC 17 1952

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660, Phlogopite Mica
Merrill Mica Mine, Warren County, N.J.

Dear Mr. Houk:

Reference is made to the samples of Phlogopite Block Mica submitted with your letter dated November 26, 1952.

The sample consisted of two specimens Grade 6 and one Grade 4 in size, about .010" in thickness. This sample was tested at 1650 degrees fahrenheit (900 degrees centigrade) and at the end of a twenty-minute period showed no evidence of exfoliating. The mica is soft and free-splitting.

Mica as represented by the sample would qualify under Munitions Board Acceptance Specification A-73 as High Heat Block Phlogopite. However, there is no purchase specification covering Phlogopite Block Mica. Specification A-73 only covers acceptance from other Government agencies.

It might be of interest to know that while Phlogopite Mica is not regarded as suitable for capacitors, this sample showed a reading of 96 (E-1) on the "Q" meter.

Very truly yours,

G. A. Purcell
Mica Consultant

GAP:le

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

file
DMEA-2660

November 18, 1952
Mr. Robertson

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-2660, Mica, Merrill Mica Mine,
Warren County, New Jersey

I concur in the field team's recommendation for denial of subject application on the basis that a worthwhile mica deposit does not exist.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 19 1952

DMEA 2660

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-MD-CNM

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

Acs

November 17, 1952

Mr. Robertson

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 18 1952

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-2660 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: R. E. Van Alstine, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: John C. Merrill, 30 North 4th Street, Easton, Pennsylvania.
Name of property: Merrill mica mine.
Location of property: 1½ miles by road NE. of Broadway, Franklin Township, Warren County, New Jersey.
Date of field team report: November 10, 1952.
Authorship of field team report: H. L. Burmeister and C. H. Brodel.
Field team's recommendation: Deny application.
Comments: The samples that the Field Team said would be submitted to the Mica Purchasing Depot in New Hampshire should be tested before the application is denied.
ACTION SUGGESTED: Follow field team's recommendation, if results of testing the phlogopite mica are unfavorable.

R. E. Van Alstine

R. E. Van Alstine

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 13 1952

November 12, 1952

Memorandum

To: Mr. Frank E. Johnson, Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA

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

Subject: John C. Merrill, Merrill Mica Mine, Franklin Township, Warren County, New Jersey - Docket DMEA-2660 - (Mica)

Attached are the original and three copies of the DMEA Field Team Report on examination of subject property.

W. T. Millar

W. T. Millar

Attachments - 4

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE

11-17-52
(date)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 13 1952

DMEA Field Team Report on Examination of Property

Docket DMEA-2660 - (Mica)

John C. Merrill, 30 North 4th St., Easton, Pennsylvania

It is the opinion of the examining Field Team that the subject application be denied.

The Field Team examined this property on November 7, 1952, and was accompanied by the applicant's son who represented his father due to the ill health of the latter.

This property is known as the Merrill Mica Mine and is located in Franklin Township, Warren County, New Jersey, about 1½ miles by road NE of the village of Broadway, New Jersey. The property is accessible by a very steep road which joins Highway 24, 0.7 mile east of the village of Broadway. The applicant states that he owns both the surface and mineral rights of this property consisting of 8 acres. The area is on a steep slope on the south side of Scott's Mountain. The slope decreases to the south.

The location of old workings dating from 1890 and 1907 are shown on the accompanying sketch which is a tracing of a map in the possession of the applicant. No workings are open for inspection. In fact, the exact location of an adit described by the applicant is not evident. There is a caved area at the eastern end of the mapped area marked "mine" which could be the caved remains of a small shaft. West of this possible shaft and still in the mapped area marked "mine," is a draw in which may have been the portal of the reported adit which probably extended in a northerly direction.

There are numerous small cuts, several of which show a small amount of weathered mica.

The overburden consists largely of boulders of granite gneiss and pegmatitic granite in which no single crystals of any kind were larger than one inch. Mica was not observed in these boulders. No rock in place was observed on this property, but the U. S. Geological Survey maps of this area show that the country rocks are granite and diorite gneisses. At the probable shaft site there was no mica showing either in the caved area or on the dump. At the probable site of the adit the ground adjacent is covered with weathered mica, some sheets of which are 6 inches maximum diameter. Samples of this mica were taken and will be sent to the Mica Purchasing Depot, Franklin, New Hampshire. It is not possible to estimate ore reserves from the data available.

There are no records of past production. The applicant states that the mica produced was used in coal stove windows. He also states that mining was discontinued when further pockets of mica were not encountered.

The application submitted in Docket DMEA-2660 did not furnish any proposal of a method for exploration. Because of the recommended denial of this application, no revision of the incomplete application originally submitted was considered necessary.

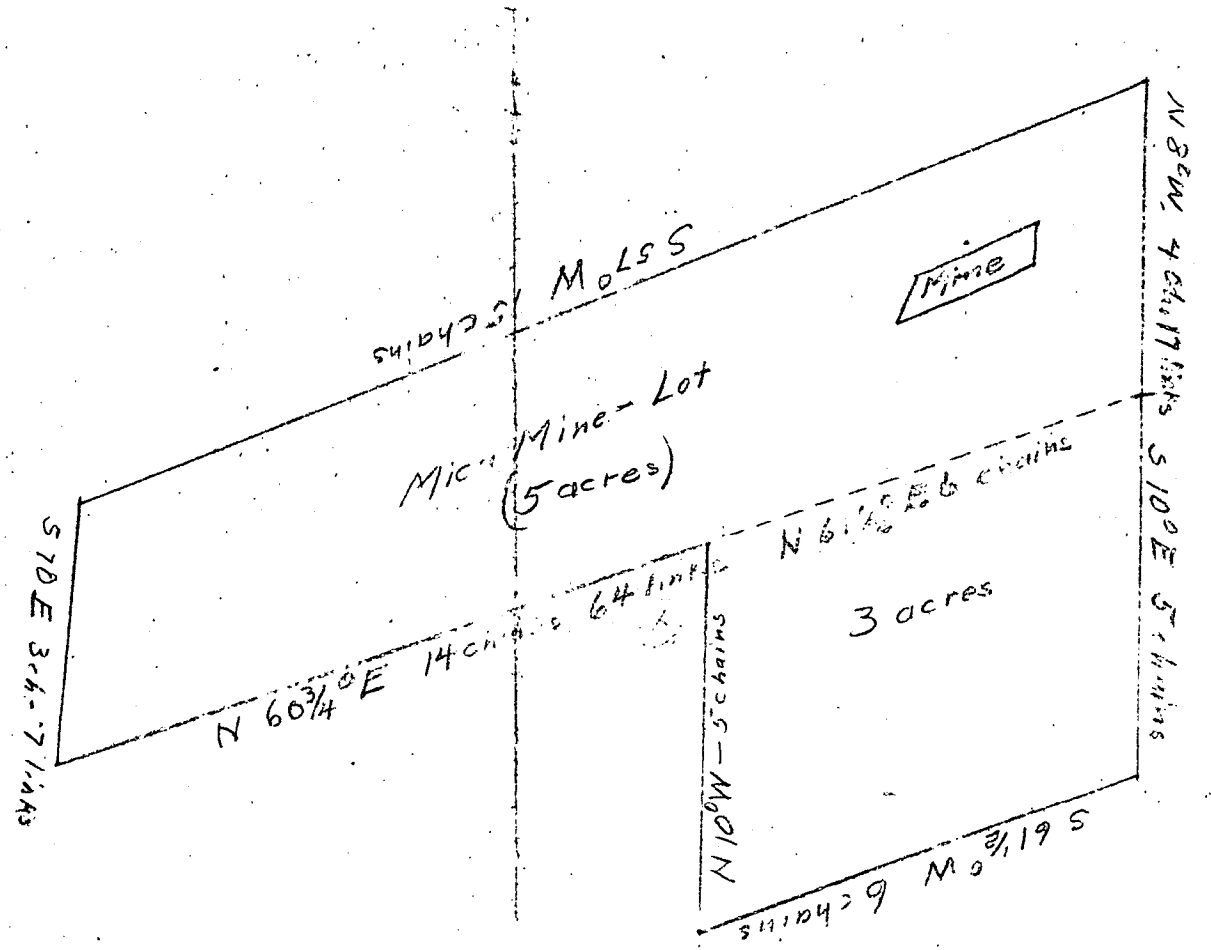
H. L. Burmeister, U. S. Bureau of Mines
Carl H. Brodel, U. S. Geological Survey

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE

11-17-52
(date)

College Park, Md.
November 10, 1952
Reported by Memo Belt

To accompany Field Examination Nov. 7, 1952
for IMEA - Docket 2660



Tracing of old map...

MITCHELL MICA PROPERTY
Near Broadway, Warren County, N.J.

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

October 21, 1952

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-2660, Mica, Merrill Mica Mine
Warren County, New Jersey

The sample submitted by applicant has been identified as phlogopite, certain qualities of which, though not presently being acquired for stockpiling, are strategic. A field team examination is recommended to obtain reliable samples for evaluation as to the strategic quality of the mica and to ascertain if an exploration program is justified.

W. F. Dietrich

W. F. Dietrich

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT 21 1952

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
NOV 13 1952

DMEA Field Team Report on Examination of Property

Docket DMEA-2660 - (Mica)

John C. Merrill, 30 North 4th St., Easton, Pennsylvania

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There are numerous small cuts, several of which show a small amount of weathered mica.

The overburden consists largely of boulders of granite gneiss and pegmatitic granite in which no single crystals of any kind were larger than one inch. Mica was not observed in these boulders. No rock in place was observed on this property, but the U. S. Geological Survey maps of this area show that the country rocks are granite and diorite gneisses. At the probable shaft site there was no mica showing either in the caved area or on the dump. At the probable site of the adit the ground adjacent is covered with weathered mica, some sheets of which are 6 inches maximum diameter. Samples of this mica were taken and will be sent to the Mica Purchasing Depot, Franklin, New Hampshire. It is not possible to estimate ore reserves from the data available.

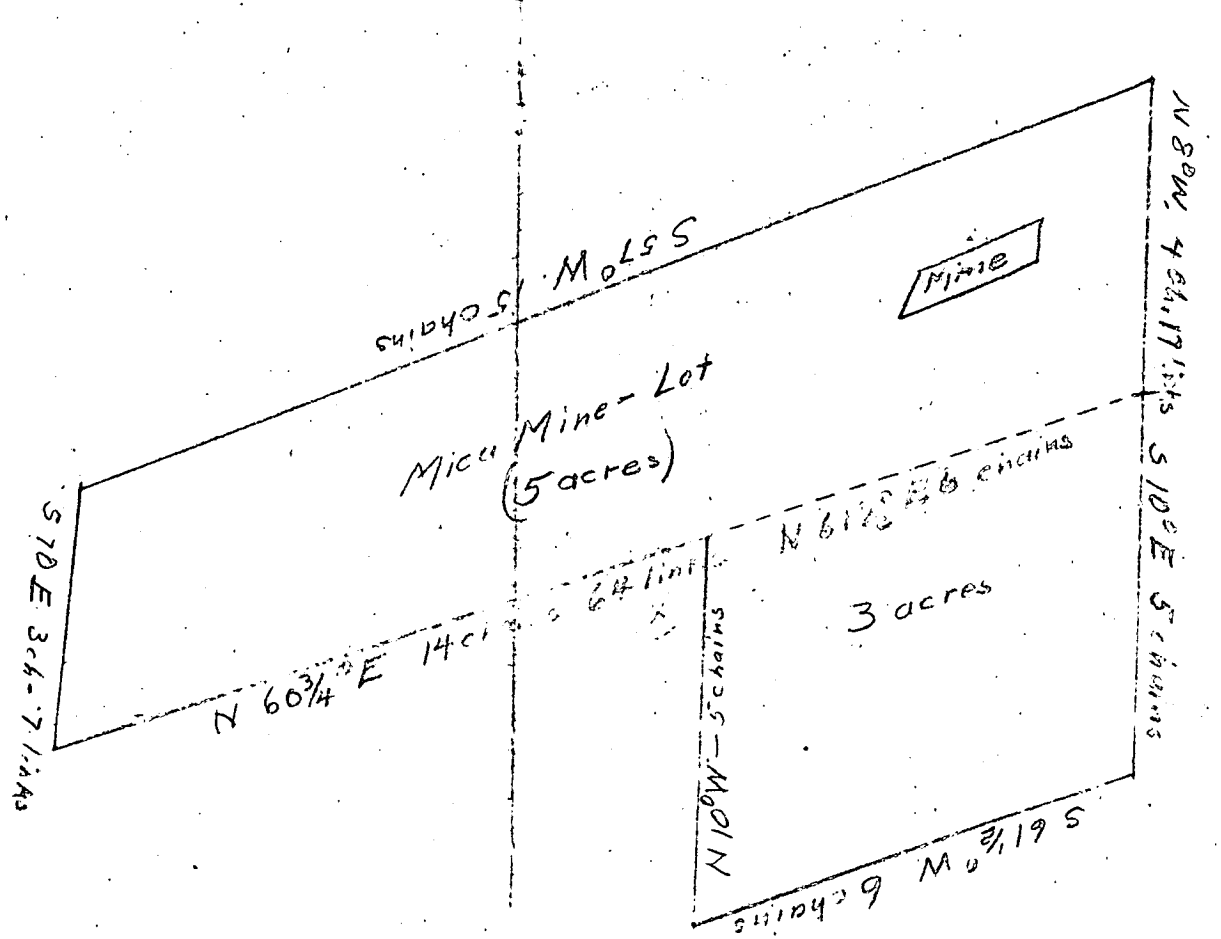
There are no records of past production. The applicant states that the mica produced was used in coal stove windows. He also states that mining was discontinued when further pockets of mica were not encountered.

The application submitted in Docket DMEA-2660 did not furnish any proposal of a method for exploration. Because of the recommended denial of this application, no revision of the incomplete application originally submitted was considered necessary.

H. L. Burmeister, U. S. Bureau of Mines
Carl H. Brodel, U. S. Geological Survey

College Park, Md.
November 10, 1952
Reported by Memo Belt

To accompany Field Examination Nov. 7, 1952
for IIMEA - Docket 2660



Tracing of old map.

McBILL MICA PROPERTY
Near Broadway, Warren County, N. J.

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

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

NOV 26 1952

Mr. George A. Purcell
Mica Consultant, Federal Supply
Service, GSA
Unit 2, 7th Floor
34 Exchange Place
Jersey City, New Jersey

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660
Phlogopite Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Warren County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Purcell:

Transmitted herewith are samples of phlogopite mica collected by our field engineers during a routine inspection of the John C. Merrill prospect in Warren County, New Jersey.

The samples are surface material and the size does not indicate the size that is to be expected from the deposit. However, we wish to have this material tested for its heat resistant properties and to be informed if the material may be classed as strategic phlogopite mica.

The samples need not be returned after testing.

Sincerely yours,

Signed

11-26-52

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Enclosures 3

LGHouk:gad 11/26/52

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

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Robertson
Hook
Kinkel
Merrill
F Johnson

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

OCT 27 1952

Mr. John C. Merrill
30 North Fourth Street
Easton, Pennsylvania

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660
Phlogopite Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Merrill:

Reference is made to my letter to you of September 16, 1952, in which this office denied an application for exploration assistance for the Merrill Mica Mine. Your application was denied because the mica was not eligible for purchase under the Mica Purchase Program. However, the sample of phlogopite mica you submitted may be eligible for exploration assistance and this office is, therefore, reopening your case for further study.

The above application has now been referred to the Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VIII, Bureau of Mines, Eastern Experimental Station, College Park, Maryland, for further investigation in the field.

As soon as the Field Team's recommendation is received by this office, you will be advised of the outcome.

Your interest in the mica program is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf (for)

Administrator

J.H. 10.27.52

JTRobertson:gad 10/24/52

Copy to: Adm. R. File
Operating Committee (2)
Field Team, Region VIII
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Norton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Hook

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Robertson
Hook
Kinkel

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 6.0

OCT 27 1952

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660
Phlogopite Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Warren County, New Jersey

Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region VIII
Bureau of Mines
Eastern Experiment Station
College Park, Maryland

Dear Sir:

Under date of September 16, 1952, Mr. C. J. Mittendorf, Administrator, sent to the applicant, Mr. John C. Merrill, 30 North Fourth Street, Easton, Pennsylvania, a letter of denial of the subject exploration application.

The denial was based on the fact that the mica was not "ruby" mica and, therefore, not eligible for purchase through the General Services Administration Purchase Depots. The eligibility of phlogopite for exploration assistance is being determined.

We are, therefore, reopening the application and now request that a field team review be made and the property examined. The application lacks a definite program, and it is suggested that details of the proposed work be discussed with the applicant. A representative sample of the phlogopite mica should be procured at the time of the examination and sent to Mr. George A. Purcell, Mica Consultant, Federal Supply Service, Unit 2, 7th floor, 34 Exchange Place, Jersey City, New Jersey, for evaluation as to its strategic value.

For some pertinent information with respect to the application, you are referred to the memorandum, dated October 13, 1952, by Mr. A. E. Van Alstine, Geological Survey.

10-27-52

Sincerely yours,

(signed) FRANK E. JOHNSON

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

Charles W. Merrill (EHB)
Member, Bureau of Mines

G. R. Finkel, Jr. (EHB)
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 2

JTRobertson:gad 10/21/52
Copy to: Adm. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee (2)
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Van Alstine, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

IN REPLY REFER TO:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT 13 1952

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

October 13, 1952

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-2660 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: R. E. Van Alstine, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: John C. Merrill, 30 North Fourth Street, Easton, Pa.
Name of property: Merrill Mica Mine.
Location of property: About 1 mile NNE. of Broadway, Warren County, New Jersey.
Estimated cost of project: None made.
Summary of applicant's proposal:

"This application is made on the assumption that the government will make its own investigation to determine whether mica can be profitably mined at the place designated. If the government report is positive, I will make the necessary arrangements to undertake the project."

Sources of information on applicant's property:

1. Bayley, W. S., Pre-cambrian geology and mineral resources of the Delaware Water Gap and Easton quadrangles, New Jersey and Pennsylvania: U. S. Geol. Survey Bull. 920, p. 95, and geologic map, 1941.
2. Parker, J. M., III, New Jersey's potential feldspar resources: Rutgers University Bur. Min. Research, Bull. 5, part 1, p. 65, 1948.

Comments:

1. The geologic map of reference 1 above shows a mica locality about 1 mile NNE. of Broadway, in Losee diorite gneiss adjacent to Byram granite gneiss. The only mention of mica mining is found on page 95 and is as follows:

"From time to time there have been attempts to obtain mica in commercial quantities from the pegmatite dikes that are so common in the Byram and Losee gneisses, but without success. Most of the pegmatite contains more or less mica but, so far as known, nowhere is the mineral present in sufficient quantity to be profitable to mine."

2. Locality 95 on the map in reference 2 above is described on page 65 as an "old mica mine, three and one-half miles west-southwest of Washington and one mile north-northeast of Broadway, Warren County. Coarse-grained granite on dumps. No rock observed in place, so appraisal impossible."

3. From the applicant's description, and reference 2 above, it appears that the mica was not found in place in the pegmatite and there are no workings on the property; therefore, it is doubted that a field team examination would be of any value.

4. We have not found any published or unpublished record of mica production from this area; attempts to produce mica anywhere in New Jersey have not been successful.

5. Applicant has not made a proposal for exploration and states that he "will make the necessary arrangements to undertake the project." He has not said anywhere that he wants government financial assistance.

6. Mr. Robertson of your office tells me that a sample of the applicant's mica was tested by Mr. Flint of the Spruce Pine government purchasing depot. It was found to be amber mica, not ruby mica, and was said not to be acceptable under the present government mica purchasing program. Mr. Robertson also tells me that Mr. Feitler of your office took a specimen to the U. S. Geological Survey and was informed by Mr. Milton that it was phlogopite.

I understand that some phlogopite mica is used in industry, and some is regarded as strategic and is stockpiled. The applicant claims that mica from his property was used in stove fronts about 1900, but there is nothing to indicate that the material is of strategic quality.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Have the phlogopite retested to determine whether it qualifies as strategic phlogopite suitable for government purchase.

2. As a result of recommendation 1, either deny the application or, if the mica is strategic grade, ask the applicant to submit a definite exploration proposal with estimated costs, objectives, etc.

R. E. Van Alstine

R. E. Van Alstine

COPY

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Spruce Pine, N. C.
Sept. 10, 1952

Mr. Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Non-Metallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
John C. Merrill
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, N. J.

Dear Mr. Houk:

Replying to your inquiry of Sept. 4th., in regard sample mica from above subject mine. We are sorry to advise that we find this mica to be "amber" mica and not acceptable on the present Government Mica Purchasing Program.

Yours very truly,

W. S. Flynt, Supt. /s/
Spruce Pine Mica Depot

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Robertson
Dalland
Lewis
Hedges
Lane
H. Johnson
Mitt

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 633

SEP 16 1952

Mr. John C. Merrill
30 North Fourth Street
Easton, Pennsylvania

Subject: Docket No. DMA-2660 - Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Merrill:

Referring to your application for exploration assistance, Docket No. DMA-2660, we find that the mica which you submitted is "amber" mica, a grade not acceptable under the present Government Purchase Program. Only mines producing "ruby" mica are able to qualify for exploration assistance.

We regret to advise, that because of the non-strategic classification of your mica, the application for exploration assistance in this case is denied.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf (for) 9/16/52

Administrator

JTRobertson:gad 9/15/52

Copy to: Admin. Reading File
Docket File
Operating Committee (2)
Field Team, Region VIII (2)
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Norton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Robertson
Dutton
Houk

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

September 15, 1952

Memorandum

To: Chairman, Operating Committee

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, New Jersey

Re: A recommendation of denial of application for exploration assistance.

It is recommended that this application be denied because the sample of mica submitted proved to be non-strategic mica. Copy of the report on sample submitted is attached hereto. The mica is "amber" mica which does not qualify for the mica purchase program.

9/16/52

Jasper T. Robertson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Attachment

JTRobertson:gad 9/15/52

Copy to: Admin. Reading File
Docket File
Mr. Houk

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

September 15, 1952

Memorandum

To: Chairman, Operating Committee

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, New Jersey

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Jasper T. Robertson

Jasper T. Robertson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Attachment

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

September 15, 1952

Memorandum

To: Chairman, Operating Committee

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, New Jersey

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Jasper T. Robertson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Attachment

COPY

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Spruce Pine, N. C.
Sept. 10, 1952

Mr. Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Non-Metallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
John C. Merrill
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, N. J.

Dear Mr. Houk:

Replying to your inquiry of Sept. 4th., in regard sample mica from above subject mine. We are sorry to advise that we find this mica to be "amber" mica and not acceptable on the present Government Mica Purchasing Program.

Yours very truly,

W. S. Flynt, Supt. /s/
Spruce Pine Mica Depot

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Spruce Pine Mica Depot.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
SEP 12 1952

FILE COPY
SURNAME:

Robertson
Houk

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

SEP 4 1952

Mr. W. S. Flynt
Manager, General Services
Administration Depot
Box 846
Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-2660 - Mica
John C. Merrill
Merrill Mica Mine
Franklin Township
Warren County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Flynt:

We are enclosing a specimen of mica from the subject mine of John C. Merrill, located in Franklin Township, Warren County, New Jersey, for evaluation as to strategic value.

Kindly determine if this material is acceptable for purchase under the purchase program of your Purchase Depot.

If possible, please return the sample together with your report to this office.

Sincerely yours,

Signed
for J. Robertson
9-4-52

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Enclosure

JTRobertson:gad 9/4/52

Copy to: Admin. Reading File
Docket File
Mr. Dietrich, 3526
Mr. Norton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

FRANCIS E. WALTER
20TH DIST., PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

August 18, 1952

Mr. C. O. Mittendorf
Act. Dir. of Defense Materials
Exploration Administration
Room 4624 - Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Mittendorf:

This letter will be presented by and introduce to you Mr. Val Smith, who has kindly consented to place the enclosed Form MF 103, executed by Mr. John C. Merrill, 30 N. 4th Street, Easton, Pennsylvania, in your hands.

Any courtesy or assistance extended to Mr. Smith will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

Francis E. Walter

FEW:rim

Mr. John C. Merrill
30 North Fourth Street
Easton, Pa.

Subject: Exploration Assistance
Re: DMEA-2660
Merrill Mica Mine
August 19, 1952

My dear Mr. Merrill:

The receipt of your application dated August 11, 1952, for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-2660 and referred to the Non-Metallic Minerals Division.

Would you kindly submit a detailed estimate of the costs of the proposed work?

Kindly refer to DMEA-2660 in any future correspondence relating to your application.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED
Wingfield Chamberlain
Acting Chief, Operation's
Control and Statistics Division

Houk Will you
pls docket in with
Adams & then process.
Will discuss with you
later.

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

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

Aug 18 1952

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-2660
Metal or Mineral
Date Received 8-18-52
Estimated Cost
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: John C. Merrill
30 North Fourth Street
Easton Pa.

(*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

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

(*c*) State your interest in the land, whether owner, lessee, purchaser under contract, or otherwise

(*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

(*f*) If the land consists of unpatented claims, add to the description above, the book and page numbers for each recorded location notice.

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.

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

(*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.

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

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

5. *The exploration project.*—(a) State the mineral or minerals for which you [illegible] to explore .....

.....

(*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.

(*c*) The work will start within ..... days and be completed within ..... 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.

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:

(*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.).

(*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.

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

(*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.

(*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.

(*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.

(*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.

(*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?

☐ Money ☐ Use of equipment owned by you ☐ Other

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 Aug 11, 1952

John C. Merrill
(Applicant)

By .....

.....

.....

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

John C.Merrill,
30 North Fourth Street, Easton, Pa.
Owner of Mica Property

3--Applicant's property rights--Land consists of eight acres in Franklin Township, Warren County, N. J., about one mile north of Broadway, N. J. bounded by a public road on the East side. This land was worked successfully for mica in the 1890's and again about 1907. The mica at that time was used only for the front of stoves and often was called isinglass.It was found in pockets about 15 inches by two feet or more in dimension, indicating that these pockets had been kicked up from a main vein which probably lies at some depth in the ground.Our people--that is my father--long since deceased, put a mine shaft into the hill about 125 or 150 feet and got the pockets from it.When the pockets grew scarce, he discintinued mining, although there was plenty of evidence of mica in the ground. And there still is such evidence.

(b)--The property has been known through the years as the Merrill Mica Mine.

(c)---I am owner of the land.

(e) The land has no encumbrances on it.

4---(d)--as stated above the property is bounded on the east by a public road and there is a private road leading to the mine site through the property.

4--(e)--Manpower is available as are material, supplies, equipment. An every-flowing stream runs along the Eastern side of the property.There is sufficient water to provide water power. In addition electric power is available.

5, 6 and 7--No operation of any kind presently exists on the premises.This application is made on the assumption that the government will make its own investigation to determine whether mica can be profitably mined at the place designated. If the government report is positive, I will make the necessary arrangements to undertake the project.

John C. Merrill