4/C/

JUL 2 2 1954

3189-
MN

Mr. A. T. Weissenborn, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
South 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3189 - Manganese
Metell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Weissenborn:

The Region II monthly report for June states in the "Remarks" column concerning the captioned docket: "Ltr. 3/22 to D. C. recommending withdrawal."

Unfortunately a copy of a memorandum of March 31, 1954, from the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division to the Operations Control and Statistics Division, by which the subject docket was withdrawn from the active files of the commodity division was not sent to you. Copies of that memorandum are attached in order that you may clear your records concerning this case.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee

Enclosure

APPROVED:

J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines

T. P. Thayer
Member, Geological Survey

cc: DOCKET
FIELD TEAM, REG. II
CODE 400
OPER. COMMITTEE
ADMIN. READING FILE
G. DeHUFF, USBM
Mr. Newcomb, USGS

7-16-65
LScott

R. E. Adams, Chief, Oper. Control and Statistics Division, DMEA

3-31-54

Chief, Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Removal of application from the active files
Docket No. DMEA 3189 - Manganese
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese claims
Baker County, Oregon

A field team examination of the subject property on December 9, 1953, was not conclusive because snow prevented a detailed study of the surface exposures. A new field examination was to be scheduled early this spring.

The applicant on March 4, 1954, requested that the referenced application be withdrawn.

Because the Field Team had written on March 9, 1954, to Ellis and Associates, who had an operating agreement with the Ketell Mining Corporation to do the exploration, this Division has held the subject application in abeyance. By letter of March 22, 1954, the Field Team has now recommended that the docket be closed.

The subject docket is attached hereto.

W. J. S. Martin, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division

Attachment

PARutledge:fec
3-31-54
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.

400

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON 25, D. C.~~
No. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

March 22, 1954

Mr. George C. Selfridge, Chairman
Operating Committee, DMEA
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3189 (manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Selfridge:

On March 9, 1954, we forwarded a letter to you from Mr. E. R. Ketell, manager of the Ketell Mining Company, wherein he stated that he no longer had an interest in the Jewell Black Manganese Claims. We stated that we were contacting Mr. Jim Ellis of Ellis and Associates to determine if he was interested in further action on the application.

Our letter to Mr. Ellis was returned today with the note that he had moved from Baker, Oregon, and had left no forwarding address. Therefore, we doubt that he is now interested in the application.

Consequently, we believe that as Mr. Ketell no longer has an interest in the property and Mr. Ellis apparently doesn't, there is no longer any need to keep the application open. Thus, we believe no further action is necessary and the docket can be closed.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Weissenborn
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region II

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON 25, D.C.~~
So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, ashington

March 9, 1954

Mr. Jim Ellis
Ellis and Associates
1629 2nd Street
Baker, Oregon

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3189 (manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Ellis:

A few days ago we received a letter from Mr. H. R. Ketell, manager of the Ketell Mining Company, wherein he states that he has dropped his interest in the Jewell Black manganese claims. As a result we infer from this letter that the application for DMEA assistance is to be withdrawn.

Inasmuch as your group had an operating agreement with the Ketell Mining Company, we are wondering if you are still interested in obtaining DMEA assistance for exploring the Jewell Black claims for manganese. If so, please notify us when the property can be examined and we shall schedule an examination at which time we will discuss further details of the program.

If you did not retain an interest in the property or if you are no longer interested in obtaining DMEA assistance, please notify us so that we can close the docket.

Very truly yours,

A. H. Weissenborn
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region II

cc: DMEA (2)
USBM (2)
Puffett

402

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON 25, D.C.~~
So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

March 9, 1954

Mr. George C. Selfridge, Chairman
DMEA Operating Committee
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3189 (manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Selfridge:

Enclosed are copies of a letter dated March 4, 1954 from Mr. H. R. Ketell, manager of the Ketell Mining Company, wherein he states he no longer has an interest in the property covered by the subject application. As a result of this letter we infer that the application is to be withdrawn by the Ketell Mining Company.

However, we are writing Mr. Jim Ellis of Ellis and Associates Baker, Oregon, to determine if they are still interested in proceeding with the application. Ellis and Associates had some arrangement with the Ketell Mining Company as a result of which Ellis and Associates did the actual mining and Ketell Mining Company handled the financial affairs of the operation. Thus, there is a possibility that Ellis and Associates may still retain an interest in the manganese claims and may still be desirous of proceeding with the application for DMEA assistance.

As noted in our letter to you of December 23, 1953, we are not too optimistic concerning the possibilities of the Jewell Black manganese claim. Nonetheless we want to make certain that Ellis and Associates do not evince an active interest in obtaining DMEA assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Weissenborn
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region II

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

COPY

THE KETELL MINING COMPANY
DEVELOPING WESTERN MINES
Main Office: 224 Board of Trade Building
Portland 4, Oregon
Broadway 2529

March 4, 1954
Dictated March 3rd

U. S. Department of the Interior
Defense Minerals Exploration Admin.
S. 157 Howard Street
Spokane, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3189 (Manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon
Attn: Mr. A. E. Weissenborn

Dear Mr. Weissenborn:

In regard to your letter of February 25th, I have dropped my interest in the claims in the Jewell Black Manganese mine in Baker, Oregon.

Very truly yours,

THE KETELL MINING COMPANY

By /s/ H. R. KETELL
H. R. Ketell, Manager

HRK/jw

RECEIVED
MAR 5 1954
U.S.G.S.
SPOKANE, WASH.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
~~WASHINGTON 25, D.C.~~
So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

Department of the Interior
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
MAR 1 1954

400

February 25, 1954

WBM

Mr. H. R. Ketell, President
The Ketell Mining Company
224 Board of Trade Building
Portland 4, Oregon

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3189 (Manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Ketell:

On December 9, 1953, representatives of DMEA attempted to conduct an examination of your manganese properties near Baker, Oregon, but as snow obscured the ground the examination was not completed. Mr. Jim Ellis, of Ellis and Associates, conferred with the DMEA examiners and furnished information concerning recent production from the mining of manganese from the Jewell Black Claims.

According to Mr. Ellis, average weather conditions in the vicinity of Baker are such that by the middle of March the snow conditions would be improved sufficiently to permit examination of the surface exposures on the claims. Mr. Ellis stated he would notify us when an examination could be successfully completed.

It is our information that the Ketell Mining Corporation's interest in the Jewell Black claims was to expire December 31, 1953. If this is true, then your company may no longer be interested in further processing its application for DMEA assistance.

Kindly let us know if you are still desirous of proceeding with the application. If you are, we will make plans to conduct an examination of your property as soon as weather conditions permit.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Weissenborn
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region II

cc: USBM (2)
DMEA (2)

400

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

So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

February 5, 1954

Mr. George C. Selfridge, Chairman
DMEA Operating Committee
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3189 (manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese Claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Selfridge:

We have your letter of January 15, 1954, requesting that we proceed with plans to schedule an examination of the subject property when weather conditions permit inspection of the surface.

We had hoped that our letter of December 23, with Puffett's memorandum detailing the grade of the shipments of manganese rock from the Jewell Black property would have been sufficient to justify denial of the application. Although the shipments averaged from 23 to 38 percent manganese, the SiO_2 content was from 26 percent to 51 percent, which we thought was excessively high.

Some of our men will be in Oregon this spring on other examinations or inspections of contracts, and in accordance with your letter, we will schedule an examination of the Jewell Black claims at that time provided the applicant is still desirous of proceeding with his application.

Yours very truly,

A. E. Weissenborn
Executive Officer, DMEA
Field Team, Region II

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

Copy retained 400

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JAN 29 1954

Mr. A. E. Weissenborn, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
South 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3189—Manganese
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Weissenborn:

Reference is made to the subject docket, your letter of December 23, 1953, and the Field Team report by Mr. W. P. Puffett, U. S. Geological Survey.

The Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, to conform to good practice, believes that no denial of an application for exploration assistance should be based on an examination made when the surface geology is concealed by snow. You should, therefore, in the present case, schedule another examination as early as possible in the spring.

Because of your comment that the Ketell Mining Corporation might cease to control the property after December 31, 1953, the Field Team should determine before making the examination whether the applicant still has control. At that time if the Ketell Mining Corporation has no further interest in the matter, please suggest to the applicant that he advise us accordingly. We could then place the docket in our inactive file.

One effective way the Operator could investigate whether the ore can be beneficiated to a product acceptable under existing General Services Administration regulations would be to ship a 200-ton lot to the Deming, New Mexico, Depot for tests.

We have been told informally that some of the shippers who are paid on the basis of actual tests there are receiving better prices than those paid on the basis of estimated recovery.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

T. P. Thayer

Member, Geological Survey

JHopkins &WSMartin/ls
1/13/53

cc: DOCKET
CODE 400
OPERATING COMMITTEE
FIELD TEAM, REG. II
ADM. READ. FILE
GILBERT DEHUFF, USBM
LOUIS PAVLIDES, USGS

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

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
So. 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

December 23, 1953

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
1-6-54
(date)

Mr. George C. Selfridge, Chairman
Operating Committee, DMEA
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3189 (manganese)
Ketell Mining Corporation
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Selfridge:

Enclosed are four copies of a report by Willard P. Puffett, U. S. Geological Survey, concerning the subject application. This report was prepared in response to a letter from the Operating Committee dated November 16, 1953, requesting a field examination of the applicant's property.

At the time of the examination, the applicant's property was overlain with snow, which prevented a detailed study of the property by the examining team. They were able, however, to meet with Mr. Jim Ellis who is associated with Ketell Mining Corporation on a co-ventureship basis, and who has been in charge of mining operations. Mr. Ellis was able to give them data on the shipments to Geneva Steel Corporation. The high silica content of the manganese ore, as indicated by these data, casts some doubt on the advisability of continued exploration of this deposit. There is even some question as to whether the ore can be beneficiated to a product acceptable under existing GSA regulations. In this respect we wish to call your attention to a letter from Charlton Laboratories concerning beneficiation of the ore, which is referred to in the application. This letter notes that ore assaying 34.7 percent manganese and 26 percent silica was upgraded to 45.1 percent manganese and that silica was reduced to 13.4 percent. On this basis, the silica was reduced in quantity about 50 percent; however, it should be noted that the 26 percent silica used in the test is considerably lower than the silica content of most of the shipments to Geneva Steel. Using the same reduction basis, silica content of the Geneva shipments could not be reduced to below the maximum of 15 percent as specified by GSA. Using the same comparison, there is some question as to whether the manganese content of ore shipped to Geneva could be upgraded to the minimum of 40 percent as specified by GSA. The 34.7 percent manganese ore used in the test is of higher grade than most of the ore shipped to Geneva.

Mr. Ellis informed the examining team that the Ketell Mining Company might cease to have control of the property after December 31, 1953, as that is the expiration date of the 6-month lease under which the property is being held. He stated, however, that he and his associates would be interested in continuing exploration in the event Ketell withdrew his interest. Mr. Ellis had no plan in mind for exploration of the property other than testing the outcrop by bulldozing. Any bulldozing program would, of course, cost far less than the $100,000 suggested in the application. Whether other exploration could more advantageously explore the deposit could not be determined because of the snow-covered terrain.

If the Operating Committee believes that additional information should be gathered by another field examination, please advise and we shall schedule the examination as early as possible during the coming spring season, otherwise it is suggested that no further consideration be given this application.

By Field Team, Region II

A. E. Weissenborn, Executive Officer
(U. S. Geological Survey)

M. E. Volin, Member
(U. S. Bureau of Mines)

Enclosure

cc: USBM (2)
Puffett

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

[illegible]
So. 297 Stuart Street
Spokane 4, Washington

December 23, 1953

MEMORANDUM

To: [illegible] Field Area, Region 4

From: Richard E. Corbett, Geologist, U. S. Geological Survey

Subject: Attempted examination of Powell-Elmer manganese claims, Docket No. [illegible]-3107 (manganese), Powell Mining Corporation, Baker County, Oregon

On Wednesday, December 9, 1953, Mr. John Dasher, mining engineer, U. S. Bureau of Mines, and myself accompanied Mr. Jim Ellis to the site of the open pit mining operations of the Powell Mining Corporation near Pleasant Valley, Oregon. Mr. Frank Merritt accompanied us to the property. To reach the property, one travels east on Highway 30 for a distance of 20.7 miles from the Sheraton service station near the east city limits of Baker. At this place, one turns to the left and follows a two-wheel trail up the slope for 2.5 miles to the open pit, which is situated near the northern end of a flat-topped knoll. Recently drifted snow obscured the ground sufficiently to prevent an examination of the property.

The following information concerning the operation was obtained from Mr. Ellis. He stated that two groups are involved in the mining operation. Ellis and associates do the actual mining and Eldin Investment Corporation act as agents and sales representatives for them. Mr. Ellis also states that Mr. Powell's organization has only 6-month lease which expires December 31, 1953, after which time Ellis and associates will assume control of the operation unless further financing is arranged by Mr. Powell, or Powell exercises his option to buy.

Mining operations were started over a 2-month period late in the past summer. As a result of this operation, seven carloads of ore were shipped to the Geneva Steel Company, Geneva, Utah. Geneva Steel Company has entered into a sale-contract agreement with the Powell Mining Corporation for 1,000 tons of manganese ore to be shipped within a 3-month period. After the seven carloads, totalling 207 tons, were shipped, Geneva Steel Company cancelled their purchase agreement. According to Mr. Ellis, this cancellation was due to the

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
1-6-54
(date)

change in use by Geneva from crude ore to the "liquid oxides"(?). This change had been made to insure steady production at the steel plant inasmuch as their supply of crude ore had been too erratic and uncertain.

The mining operation consisted of fairly shallow stripping and quite careful hand sorting of the ore. Mr. Ellis stated that it was his experience to see very narrow bands of manganese ore widen abruptly to lenses from which as much as a carload was produced.

All machinery had been removed from the property for storage at Pendleton, Oregon. Mr. Ellis does not plan to resume operations until weather permits, probably late in February or in early March. He was hopeful that a short period of fair weather would permit sufficient thawing to remove the snow from the pit and thus allow adequate examination by DMEA personnel. Although Mr. Ellis and associates are not named in the application, Mr. Ellis is still desirous of following through with the application should Mr. Kotell's interest be terminated by the first of January.

Following is a tabulation of the contents of the seven carload shipments of ore that had been made. All assays were made by the Geneva Steel Chemical Laboratory.

Lot No.	As	Zn	P	Mn	SiO_2	Al_2O_3	CaO	MgO	S	Fe
1	0.01	0.01	0.030	31.2	34.95	1.84	1.16	0.46	0.12	2.1
2	0.01	0.01	0.018	22.9	46.67	1.94	0.76	ND	0.004	1.9
3	0.01	0.02	0.024	24.9	48.64	2.83	0.92	0.38	0.006	1.8
4	0.01	0.02	0.018	23.2	45.20	1.60	1.46	0.93	0.007	1.6
5	0.01	0.02	0.060	27.0	43.24	—	—	—	0.013	1.2
6	0.01	0.02	0.034	22.8	51.97	3.03	0.92	0.69	0.011	1.5
7	0.01	0.01	0.060	38.1	26.18	3.20	1.00	ND	0.019	1.9

It is to be noted that the ore contains a disproportionate high percentage of silica which, according to U. S. B. M. R. I. 4149, is difficult to separate from the manganese. Because of this high silica content of the ore, it is problematical whether this property merits further consideration for DMEA assistance.

Distribution:
DMEA (Orig.43)
USBM(2)
Deckert
Puffett

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NOV 13 1953

Mr. H. R. Ketell, President
Ketell Mining Corporation
224 Board of Trade Building
Portland 4, Oregon

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3189, Manganese
Jewell Black Manganese claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Ketell:

Reference is made to the above-docketed application for exploration assistance, which has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and referred to Mr. A. E. Weissenborn, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II, South 157 Howard Street, Spokane 4, Washington, for a field examination of the property.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date with regard to an examination of your property. Any assistance that you can render the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

FARutledge/ls
11/12/53

cc: DOCKET
CODE 400
FT. REG. 2
ADM. READ. FILE
GILBERT DE HUFF, USBM
LOUIS PAVLIDES, USGS

400

NOV 16 1953

Mr. A. T. Weissenborn, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
South 157 Howard Street
Spokane 4, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3189, Manganese
Ketell Mining Corporation
Jewell Black Manganese claims
Baker County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Weissenborn:

Reference is made to the above-docketed application for exploration assistance, which is being referred to your office for a field examination of the property.

A review of the subject application and published reports on the area indicate that the property appears to have little merit. However, a field examination is being requested because of the applicant's record of shipments.

If the Field Team's recommendations are favorable, Owner's Consent to Lien from the several owners should be obtained.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

A. R. Kinkel, Jr.

Member, Geological Survey

cc: DOCKET
ADM. READ. FILE
FT. REG. II
CODE 400
OPER. COMMITTEE
GILBERT DE HUFF, USBM
LOUIS PAVLIDES, USGS

FARutledge/ls
11/12/53