AUG 4 1952

Mr. Howard I. Young, Deputy Administrator
Defense Materials Procurement Agency
General Services Administration Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMA 1733 - Iron
Whitechuck, Incorporated
Snohomish County, Washington

Dear Mr. Young:

Enclosed are spare copies of correspondence between DMPA (or its predecessor DMA) and Whitechuck, Incorporated, 224 West 195th Street, Seattle 77, Washington.

As you will note from the above attachments, Whitechuck applied under date of June 13, 1951, for aid for an exploration project covering iron occurring as magnetite in Snohomish County, Washington. Although the same application omitted even such essential information as the amount of aid requested, it was not until April 14, 1952, that we received a reply (dated February 19, 1952) to our letters of July 3, August 22 and December 14, 1951, requesting further details from the applicant.

Both Martha G. Carr, U. S. Geological Survey, and Joshin M. Forbes, U. S. Bureau of Mines, to whom the docket was referred respectively on April 15 and April 23, 1952, noted that Whitechuck's proposal was a production rather than an exploration project and suggested that the field team be consulted. Accordingly, under date of May 29, 1952, the docket was sent to the Executive Officer, Region II, with the suggestion that the applicant be contacted to determine what exploration assistance was desired.

On July 28, 1952, advice was received from the field team that Mr. R. C. Robinson, Chairman of the Board, of Whitechuck had stated that he was not interested in exploration assistance but only in a production loan.

We are, therefore, referring the foregoing docket to you for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Acting Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

Enclosures

WEMartin'lm
8/1/52

cc: Admn. Reading File
Docket
E. M. Forbes, DSRM
Martha Carr, DSRM
Field Team Reg. II
G. C. Selfridge
W. E. Martin

Mr. R. C. Robinson
Whitechuck, Inc.
224 West 155th Street
Seattle 77, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMA 1733X - Iron
Whitechuck, Inc.
Tank 1 to 7, inclusive
Snohomish County, Washington

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Reference is made to your conversations early this month regarding the subject project with the members of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration Field Team for Region II with headquarters at Spokane, Washington.

We understand that you are not interested in exploration assistance but only in a production loan. Accordingly, we have referred your application, and copies of our subsequent correspondence, to the Defense Materials Procurement Agency for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

C. D. Mittendorf

Acting Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

WSMartin'lm
8/1/52

cc: Admn. Reading File
Docket
J. M. Forbes, USBM
Martha Carr, USGS
Field Team Reg. II
G. C. Selfridge
W. S. Martin

R. H. Adams, Administrative Officer, DMEA
Attn.: Docket and Control Branch

August 1, 1952

Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division, DMEA

Docket No. DMA 1733X - Iron
Whitechuck River Deposits
Snohomish County, Washington

The above docket is returned herewith. Also attached is a copy of a letter to Defense Materials Procurement Agency from the Acting Administrator, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration, transmitting duplicate copies of the correspondence in the same docket and explaining that since the applicant is interested in a production loan rather than exploration assistance the matter is one for consideration by Defense Materials Procurement Agency.

George C. Selfridge

G. C. Selfridge, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division

Attachment

WSMartin:lm
8/1/52

cc: Admn. Reading File
Docket
G. C. Selfridge
W. S. Martin

400

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

July 26, 1952

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA

From: DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-1733X, Iron, Whitechuck River Deposits, Snohomish County, Washington

In reply to your referral on the subject docket, the applicant, Mr. R. J. Robinson, was interviewed by E. A. Magill of the Bureau of Mines. A brief memorandum by Mr. Magill is attached which states that the applicant is not interested in exploration assistance. Application blanks for a production loan are being sent to him.

By DMEA Field Team, Region II

A. S. Weissenborn, Exec. Officer
(U. S. Geological Survey)

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

Enclosure

cc: USBM

AUG 4 1952

C
O
P
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M. E. Volin, Member DMEA Field Team, Region II July 22, 1952

E. A. Magill, Mining Engineer, Bureau of Mines

Docket No. DMEA 1733X (Iron)
Whitechuck River Deposits, Snohomish County, Washington

The applicant, Mr. R. C. Robinson, was contacted on July 7, 1952, in regard to the intent of his application on the subject property. He stated that he was not interested in exploration assistance but only in a production loan.

Although the property was not visited, it is reported by members of the Washington State Division of Mines and Geology that the deposit does not contain any greater percentage of magnetite than other sand and gravel deposits. When questioned on this subject, the applicant stated that he had no reason to believe that it did.

It is suggested that the docket be referred to the Defense Materials Procurement Agency for appropriate action.

E. A. Magill

Orig. to files
cc: Wash. (2)
USGS (1)
Albany(1)
EAM (1)

Mr. A. E. Weissenborn
Executive Officer, Region II
South 157 Howard Street
Spokane 8, Washington

MAY 29 1952

Re: Docket No. DMA 17331 - Iron
Whitechuck River Deposits
Snohomish County, Washington

Dear Mr. Weissenborn:

We are sending you a docket on the above stated project, in which an application has been made for exploration assistance.

This applicant makes no specific proposal for exploring the property. In fact, all the data submitted indicate that a production loan is desired rather than an exploration loan.

We suggest that you contact the applicant and find out if he desires exploration assistance and, if so, the amount and type of work he wishes.

If the applicant desires a production loan, refer him to the Defense Materials Procurement Agency and suggest that he withdrew his application for exploration assistance.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) FRANK E. JOHNSON

Chairman, Operating Committee
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

Enclosures

TLChapman'lm
5/26/52

Approved:

D. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

D. M. Lemmon

Member, Geological Survey

cc: Admn. Reading File
Docket
J. M. Forbes, USGS
Martha Carr, USGS
Field Team Reg. II
Operating Committee
G. O. Selfridge
T. L. Chapman

MAY 29 1952

Mr. R. C. Robinson
Whitechuck, Incorporated
224 West 195th Street
Seattle 77, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMA 1733X - Iron
Whitechuck River Deposits
Snohomish County, Washington

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Your application for assistance in exploring the above noted property has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration. We cannot find where you have made any specific proposal for an exploration project. Hence, we are referring it to Mr. A. W. Weissenborn, Executive Officer, Region II, South 157 Howard Street, Spokane 8, Washington.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date in regard to your desires on the project.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mitchell

Acting Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

TLChapman'lm
5/26/52

cc: Admn. Reading File
Docket
J. M. Forbes, USBM
Martha Carr, USGS
Field Team Reg. II
Operating Committee
D. C. Selfridge
T. L. Chapman

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

400

May 16, 1952

Memorandum

To: George Selfridge - D. M. E. A.

From: Jachin M. Forbes, United States Bureau of Mines

Subject: Review of Docket No. D.M.E.A. 1733-X (Iron Ore) Whitechuck Inc., Snohomish Co., Washington.

I have reviewed the information connected with the subject proposal which was forwarded to me under Miss Carrs' memorandum to you of April 23.

As noted by Miss Carr, the proposal requests no assistance for exploration, and the question of claimant agency is not clear. Aside from that aspect of the proposal, the following comments are offered:

Mr. Robinson and his associates have done what must appear to them extensive investigation into the possibilities of exploiting an easily mined mineral deposit. The idea of developing complex mineral deposits, and especially iron production in that area is one that I would like to encourage. However, the information assembled thus far in this instance is inadequate and unreliable as a basis for the expenditure of the required funds. It is possible that the scheme would work out, but it is not possible to judge the degree of risk involved without a detailed study under professional guidance with respect to both economics and technology.

In order to justify activation of the proposal, preliminary investigations should be made to determine the average analysis of magnetic concentrates. The documents submitted with the proposal indicate that the average iron content would be less than 50 percent with over 25 percent silica plus alumina plus titania (acid gangue to be slagged). The 72 percent mentioned by Mr. Robinson must refer to iron oxide content and would indicate a low grade ore after concentration.

Additional studies would be indicated only if a higher grade concentrate is assured. These would include experimental runs in a commercial size electric furnace to determine the cost data and chemical analysis of the pig iron produced.

Copy retained 400

It seems fair to assume that acceptable iron could be marketed, but the evidence indicates that the pigs produced at the University of Washington were high in silica (light color and high smelting temperatures). High silica or silvery iron has a limited but premium market.

If it is decided that D.M.E.A. is to continue an interest in this proposal, I recommend that the field team be consulted on the over-all aspects of the proposal. It may be that the Bureau of Mines' Northwest Electrodevelopment Laboratory at Albany, Oregon would be interested in the possibilities. I am forwarding the docket as received from Miss Carr.

Jachin M. Forbes

Enclosure

JMForbes:amv

Copy to: Mr. Forbes
Mr. Selfridge
Ferrous Metals
F i l e s

402

IN REPLY REFER TO:
G-MD-MC

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

April 23, 1952

Memorandum

To: George E. Selfridge, DMEA

From: Martha S. Carr, USGS

Subject: Review of Docket No. DMA 1733X
Whitechuck, Inc.
Snohomish County, Washington

In answer to your memorandum of April 15:

The aid required by the applicant appears to be of a DMEA rather than a DMEA nature. His answer to Question 21 under the Exploration includes the building of a separation plant, an electric furnace plant, and a charcoal plant--and refers to no exploration of the property to prove his estimates of reserves (5,940,000 tons of magnetite iron).

As the only information available to us concerning the deposit of magnetic black sand is that furnished by the applicant, it is recommended that the application be referred to the field team for verification of the data and an understanding with the applicant as to whether or not exploration aid is required. This suggestion is dependent, of course, upon an affirmative decision by Mr. Forbes of the Bureau of Mines that the titaniferous sand is amenable to present metallurgical methods--and that the project appears to be feasible from a commercial standpoint.

The attachments pertaining to this docket, together with a copy of this memorandum, are being forwarded to Mr. J. M. Forbes.

Attachments:

Copies to: J. M. Forbes
Director's reading (4212)
Branch
DMEA File
Ferrous Metals File

Copy retained 400

MCarr:mw
G: 4/23/52

Mrs. Martha Carr, U. S. Geological Survey April 15, 1952

Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

Review of Docket No. DMA 1733
Whitechuck, Inc.
Snohomish County, Washington

Attached is the application received from the above-referenced applicant on June 25, 1951, together with a letter of February 19, 1952, which gives further data to supplement the original loan application. The applicant has furnished us a single set of three maps and two pages of photographs, which are also attached.

It is requested that you review the application and other material and furnish us with your comments to supplement those given in your memorandum of February 7, 1952, which were based upon review of the original application only.

Following your review of the attachments, it is requested that you forward them, together with a copy of your memorandum, to Mr. J. M. Forbes, Bureau of Mines, Room 3517, Interior Building, in order that he too may let us have his opinion on this application.

G. C. Selfridge, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division

Attachments

LScott

cc: Docket
Admn. Reading File
G. C. Selfridge
J. M. Forbes, USBM

You file

Mr. Robert E. Adams March 26, 1952
Attention: Code 230 - Docket and Control Section
Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division, DMEA

Removal from active file of: Docket No. DMA 1733X
Whitechuck, Inc.
Snohomis County, Washington

We are removing the subject application from our active file because the applicant was advised by letter dated December 14, 1951, that it was being placed in the inactive file until we had further information from him.

George C. Selfridge

G. C. Selfridge, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloy Division

Attachment

GCSelfridge:ls

CC: Admn. Reading File
Docket
G. C. Selfridge

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

C O P Y

February 7, 1952

To: George E. Selfridge, DMEA

From: Martha Carr, USGS

Subject: Exploration application (Estimated cost DMA 1733X Magnetic black sand not specified)
Whitechuck, Inc.
224 W. 195
Seattle 77, Washington

Property: The property is located east and southeast of the confluence of the Whitechuck and Sauk Rivers in the Snohomish County mining district, Snohomish County, Washington. The areas are described as follows:

Sauk #1, N½ of the N½, etc., etc., etc., etc.

The nearest town is Darrington (on the Northern Pacific Railway), 10 miles by gravel road west of the deposit.

Proposal: No specific proposal to porspect the property has been made by the applicant. It is assumed that he plans to produce iron as a byproduct of the pumice; then concentrate and pelletize the magnetite, the reserves of which he estimates to be 5,940,000 tons.

Geology: No specific information concerning the deposit is contained in the Survey's files. A statement of the reported occurrence of iron ore in the area is made in a State report. According to the applicant, the deposit of magnetic black sand is in flat benchland and has a depth of 100 to 150 feet. No map showing the known areal extent has been furnished. The overburden, of silty soil mixed with pumice, is 6 to 18 inches thick. The pumice in the deposit consists generally of about 40 percent in volume.

Recommendation: A map showing the known areal extent of the deposit and distribution of the excavated test holes, with logs of the holes, if available, is needed. A specific proposal and estimated cost should also be obtained from the applicant before a recommendation can be made.

/s/ Martha Carr

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

C O P Y

December 14, 1951

Mr. R. C. Robinson
Whitechuck, Incorporated
224 West 195th Street
Seattle 77, Washington

Re: Docket No. DMEA 1733X
Whitechuck, Incorporated
Exploration Project Application

Dear Mr. Robinson:

In your letter of August 27 you wrote that you were sending a sample of the magnetic iron ore from your deposit to Mr. E. W. Davis, Mining Experimental Station, University of Minnesota, to determine whether or not the ore could be pellatized. Until these test data, together with the information requested in the letter of Mr. Paul E. Pesonen, dated July 3, 1951 are received, we will not be able to process your application.

Your application is being placed in an inactive file until we have further information from you.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

C
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(Formerly)

WHITECHUCK, INC.
UNIT COMPANY INC.
224 West 195th st.
Seattle 77, Washington

August 27, 1951

Mr. Tom Lyon, Director
Supply Division
Defense Minerals Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: DMA-1733X - Exploration loan, Sauk 1 to 7, inclusive, Snohomish County, Washington

My dear Mr. Lyon:

We have just received your letter dated August 22, 1951.

We have delayed in answering the letter dated July 3, 1951 written by the Acting Chief of the Iron Ores Branch because we did not have all the data. We have everything required in his letter except the details on pellatizing the fine magnetic sands to a merchantable structure. We have contacted several engineering firms in the East, but as yet do not have the data which we feel would answer the question raised in the last paragraph of the above cited letter.

Amongst the organizations contacted was the University of Minnesota, Mr. E. W. Davis, Mines Experiment Station. We are sending him a sample of our magnetic iron ore upon which he will make tests and let us know whether or not the material can be pellatized. As soon as we have this information we will forward it to you at once.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter, we are

Very truly yours,

WHITECHUCK, INC.

/s/ R. C. Robinson

R. C. Robinson

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

August 22, 1951

Mr. R. C. Robinson
Whitechuck, Inc.
224 West 195th Street
Seattle 77, Washington

Subject: DMA 1733X - Exploration loan, Sauk 1 to 7, inclusive, Snohomish County, Washington.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

On July 3, 1951, the Acting Chief of the Iron Ores Branch wrote you stating that you had failed to present all of the details requested in the application form MF-103, and that no further action could be taken on your application until this information was received.

In the event that no reply is received from you regarding this matter within 60 days, we will assume that you are not now interested in such a loan, and we will record your application as withdrawn.

This action will not, however, preclude you from submitting at a later date an application for a loan or for any other type of assistance that may be available under the provisions of the Defense Production Act.

Sincerely yours,

Tom Lyon, Director
Supply Division

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

C O P Y

July 3, 1951

Mr. R. C. Robinson
Whitechuck, Inc.
224 West 195th Street
Seattle 77, Washington

Subject: DMA 1733X - Exploration loan, Sauk 1 to 7, inclusive, Snohomish County, Washington.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Your application for an exploration loan at the subject property has been reviewed by the Iron Ores Branch. The application fails to present all of the details requested in the application form MF-103, and further processing is therefore being held in abeyance pending the receipt of this information.

It is apparent that the deposit has been previously explored by over 200 holes for the pumice content and that, as the magnetite content is only about 15 percent by volume of the original crude material, it cannot qualify as an exploration project for iron ore.

We also note that 30 to 50 percent of the magnetite is less than 100 mesh in a screen test and contains 5.1 percent titanium.

In addition to answering questions 17 to 23, inclusive, of form MF-103, we would appreciate your detailed costs by proven metallurgical processes, and the profits you expect from an integrated pumice-magnetite operation. We would also appreciate details on pelletizing the fine magnetite sands to a merchantable structure, and your market for the resultant product containing 5.1 percent titanium.

Very truly yours,

Paul E. Pesonen, Acting Chief
Iron Ores Branch

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

June 28, 1951

Mr. R. C. Robinson
224 West 195
Seattle 77, Washington

Subject: DMA 1733X
Re: Exploration Loan
Sauk #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Receipt is acknowledged of your application and attachments of June 13, 1951 for an exploration loan under the Defense Production Act of 1950.

The application was assigned Docket Number DMA 1733X and referred to Mr. Paul Pesonen, Chief, Iron Branch on June 27, 1951.

In any future correspondence relating to your application, kindly refer to DMA 1733X.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Landon F. Strobel

Landon F. Strobel
Executive Secretary

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WHITECHUCK, INC.
224 West 195th St.
Seattle 77, Washington

June 20, 1951

Defense Minerals Administration
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Subject: Application - Pursuant to Mineral Order 5, Under Defense Production Act of 1950

Submitted herewith - in quadruplicate - are the following:

1. Form MF-103 - Application
   Accompanying sheets number 1 to 7

2. Lease agreement - October 4, 1947

3. Lease agreement - March 14, 1948

4. Balance sheet - Dec. 31, 1950

5. Profit & Loss Statement - Dec. 31, 1950

Also enclosed are the following:

3 Photographs
3 Blueprints

The Seattle Chamber of Commerce, upon the advice received from your Mr. A. E. Weissenborn, suggested that we forward the above to you.

We shall greatly appreciate any information which you might furnish as to the status of this application.

Very truly yours,

WHITECHUCK, INC.

/s/ Edw. F. Murray

Edw. F. Murray
Treas.