OCT 3 - 1955

Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerington, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Gentlemen:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in Washington concerning the above-referenced 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 our information, although noting a small amount of tungsten mineralization in surface pits and open cuts on the Bigelow Peak claims, indicates to us that the probability of disclosing minable tungsten ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. Under these circumstances, we regret to advise you that your application is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration program and for bringing this property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

G. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

cc: Docket
Code 400
Oper. Comm.
T. Kiilsgaard, USGS
W. McInnis, USBM
Adm. Read. File
FT, Reg. 2

SPHolt/ls
9/26/55

September 27, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrator, DMEA

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Subject: Denial of request for exploration assistance in the amount of $26,300
Docket No. DMEA 3498-Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Mining Claims
Tuolumne County, California

The denial of the subject application is recommended by this Division based on the following information:

(1) The applicant, Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Box 463, Yerington, Nevada, requested exploration assistance in the amount of $26,300.00 for 125 feet of bulldozer trenching in 5 trenches and approximately 650 feet of diamond drilling in 5 holes on the Bigelow Peak mining claims.

(2) The applicant owns the following unpatented lode mining claims:

Bigelow Peak
Bigelow Peak No. 1
Bigelow Peak No. 2
Bigelow Peak No. 3
Bigelow Peak No. 4
Bigelow Meadow No. 1
Big Jack

Bigelow Peak No. 1 and Bigelow Peak No. 2 claims are recorded in Volume 22, on page 267, of the records of Tuolumne County, at the County Court House, Sonora, California. The claims are situated within the Stanislaus National Forest, in Section 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., M. D. B. & M., Tuolumne County, California, approximately 1 mile southwest of the Montezuma Tungsten Mine (Docket No. DMEA 2860), at elevations of 10,000 to 10,500 feet, and adjacent to the north boundary of the Yosemite National Park.

(3) The proposed program is, Stage I, to bulldoze 5 trenches, each 25 feet long, across the tactite zone at 30-foot intervals, and, Stage II, to drill 5 diamond drill holes, spaced 30 feet apart, at minus 50 degrees inclination, to intersect the tactite layer at depths of approximately 100 feet. It was suggested that an adit might be driven in lieu of drilling if Stage I trenching proved the ore to be continuous beneath the talus slide and of sufficient grade.

(4) In the area covered by the Bigelow Peak claims sparse tungsten mineralization is exposed in outcrops and surface open cuts, and also occurs in talus slide material, but there is little indication that minable bodies of tungsten ore will be discovered by work under the applicant's proposed program.

(5) The Field Team concludes that there is little probability of making a significant discovery and recommends denial. The Commodity Division of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur in this recommendation.

(6) The Field Team's geologists and engineers attempted to make an examination of this property on November 10, 1954, but were turned back by deep snow which made roads impassable. The examination was made on July 25 and 26, 1955, only 12 days after the applicant notified the Field Team that the access road had been cleared of snow and reopened.

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

SPHolt/ls
9/26/55

cc: Docket
Code 400
Oper. Comm.
Adm. Read. File

IN REPLY REFER TO:

400

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

RECEIVED
SEP 26 1955

September 26, 1955

Re: DMEA 3490
Bigelow Peak Mining Co.
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, Calif.
$26,300 - Tungsten

Copy retained 400

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

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

Subject: Review of Field Team Report.

The nicely done report supports the conclusions of the examiners and the recommendation of a denial of the application by the Field Team. Some mineral fluorescent under the lamp and mistaken for scheelite appears to have misled the applicants.

I concur with the recommendation of the Field Team.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

NENelson:iml
G-9/26/55

cc: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
R. Holliday, 3513

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

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

September 19, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

Pursuant to your letter of October 25, 1954, we are attaching four copies of a field examination report on above subject property by B. H. Sheahan, Bureau of Mines and Don B. Tatlock and H. K. Stager, both of the Geological Survey.

The examination was delayed owing to inaccessibility during the winter and early spring. The report recommends that the application for exploration aid be denied. Roscoe Smith and I approve of the recommendation.

S. Ricker

Attach.

SRicker:gh
cc: R. M. Smith
File

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION II

APPLICATION REPORT

DMEA-3498 (Tungsten) Bigelow Peak Claims
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Tuolumne County, California

By

B. H. Sheahan
Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

Don B. Tatlock
Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

H. K. Stager
Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

September 16, 1955

CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	2
LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY AND LOCAL RESOURCES	2
HISTORY AND PRODUCTION	4
PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP	4
COMPETENCY OF APPLICANT	5
DEVELOPMENT	6
GENERAL GEOLOGY	6
ORE DEPOSITS	7
SAMPLING	8
ORE RESERVES	9
PROPOSED EXPLORATION	10

ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1. Location map

Fig. 2. Part of Bigelow Peak Claims, Tuolumne County, California

INTRODUCTION

Messrs. Jack Carpenter, Walter Cox, Carl O. Gelmstedt, and five other partners of the Bigelow Peak Mining Company, whose mailing address is P. O. Box 463, Yerington, Nevada, applied for Government assistance in a $26,300 program to explore for tungsten at their property in the high Sierra Nevada Mountains, Tuolumne County, California.

The original application, docket No. DMEA-3498, was poorly prepared since there was no definite exploration proposal, objective, target or location. The claims were staked by the partners in September 1954, and an application for exploration assistance was filed September 20, 1954. A field examination was requested by the Operating Committee on October 25, 1954 and an attempt was made to examine the prospect on November 10, 1954, but early snow storms prevented an examination.

Mr. Carl O. Gelmstedt notified the Executive Officer, DMEA, Region II that the access road was reopened on July 13, 1955 and the property was examined July 25 and 26, 1955 by B. H. Sheahan of the Bureau of Mines and Don B. Tatlock and H. K. Stager of the Geological Survey who were accompanied by Messrs. Robert Tyler, Earl Steelman and Willard Hanson, all of whom are partners in the company.

The scope of the examination included lamping the more pronounced outcrops with ultraviolet light and mapping and sampling the better mineralized sections.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The claims cover several poorly mineralized and generally small, tactite bodies of which only one was considered worth examining in detail. Sample analyses of the scheelite bearing tactite were considerably lower grade than lamping estimates indicated. The probability of making a significant discovery of tungsten ore is slight, although preliminary prospecting at the property has not been completed. The geographic location, short operating season and the difficult access to the property are other factors which discourage exploration.

It is recommended that the applicant's request for Government aid in the proposed exploration be denied because of the grade of the deposit, and the apparent lack of commercial ore anywhere on the Bigelow Peak claims.

LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY AND LOCAL RESOURCES

The prospect is in sec. 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., MDB&M., Tuolumne County, California, approximately one mile southwest of the Montezuma Tungsten Mine (docket No. DMEA-2260). The claims are within the Stanislaus National Forest at an elevation of 10,000 to 10,500 feet, and adjacent to the north boundary line of the Yosemite National

Park (Fig. 1).

To reach the property from Bridgeport, California, which is the nearest town, follow paved US Highway 395 northerly 17 miles to State Highway 108; turn left and follow paved State Highway 108 westerly 11.1 miles to a dirt road indicated by a small 15-ton capacity wooden ore bin; turn left and follow a very steep winding narrow dirt road 17.1 miles southerly along the crest of the Sierra Nevada mountains to the Montezuma Tungsten mine; thence one mile southwest by a two mile trail by way of Bond Pass (elevation 9,800 feet). A four speed low gear pickup truck, weighted in the back end, or a jeep is needed to travel over the dirt road. The road is closed by a locked gate and is posted by the U.S. Forest Service as follows: "Emigrant Basin Wild Area; Not Open to Public Motorized Travel".

The operating season is usually from July through September. The climate is severe during the spring, autumn and winter , and snow depths of 20 to 30 feet have been reported. Snow drifts reach much greater depths in canyons and freezing weather occurs throughout the year. The drainage is into Snow Lake and the land is of high recreational value as a primative area and water shed.

Water is available at the property. Electric power is not available and the nearest telephone is at Leavitt Meadows Pack Station, a distance of 28 miles. The wage scale for miners is from $18.00 to

$25.00 per day. Trucking charges to transport ore from the Montezuma Mine (inactive) to the U.S. Vanadium mill at Pine Creek near Bishop, California was reported to have been $17.00 per ton, but would exceed this from the Bigelow Peak property. The distance is approximately 135 miles. There are no living accommodations or improvements. The operators are using the camp at the Montezuma mine where two cabins and a shed are available.

HISTORY AND PRODUCTION

The Bigelow Peak property was discovered in 1942 by Mr. Willard Hanson, one of the locators and his father-in-law, Mr. L. W. Osborn who is one of the owners of the Montezuma. The Bigelow Peak No. 1 and No. 2 claims were located by Mr. Willard Hanson and associates on September 9, 1954. There has been no production from the property.

PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP

The property includes a group of seven unpatented mining claims. The Bigelow Peak No. 1 and Bigelow Peak No. 2 were reported to be recorded in Vol. 22, Page 267, at the Tuolumne County Courthouse, Sonora, California. A property map submitted with the docket application indicates the Bigelow Peak, Bigelow Peak No. 1 to No. 4 inclusive, the Bigelow Meadow No. 1 and the Big Jack. The claims were all staked in September 1954.

Messrs. Willard Hanson, Earl Steelman, and Robert Tyler own a 75 percent interest; and the remaining 25 percent interest is owned by Messrs. Jack Carpenter, Walter Cox, Carl O. Gelmstedt, Antone Lilja, and J. G. Hilgart, all of whom are from Yerington, Nevada. The group is a partnership and is doing business as the Bigelow Peak Mining Co. Other mineral claims have been staked in the vicinity by the partners and other parties.

The claims monuments on some of the land on the south end, extends into the Yosemite National Park.

COMPETENCY OF APPLICANT

The applicants are poorly qualified to conduct an exploration project, because of insufficient mining experience. Mr. Willard Hanson has prospected the area and has interested the other partners in the deposit. Messrs. Tyler and Steelman are carpenters. These three men intend to construct a road to the Bigelow No. 2 claim and hand sort scheelite bearing tactite from the slide area. They plan to ship ore to the U. S. Vanadium Mill at Pine Creek. They hope to gain some information regarding the grade of the material by producing a few 8-ton lots of ore.

The other partners are providing financial assistance and are probably able to provide their share of an exploration loan. Messrs.

Carpenter and Cox are employed at Yerington, Nevada in the publishing business. Mr. Antone Lilja is an elderly prospector, and Mr. J. G. Hilgart is a construction workman. Mr. Carl O. Gelmstedt is in the real estate and insurance business. Mr. L. Benson, a contractor from Smith Valley, Nevada, has been hired to assist them with access road construction work.

DEVELOPMENT

The only work done on the claims included a part of the location work requirements of 1954. An excavation cut on the Bigelow No. 2 claim was 10 feet high at the face, about 4 feet wide and 15 feet long. Most of the other cuts were smaller. At the Bigelow No. 3, the location hole was only 2 feet deep, 5 feet long, and 3 feet wide. Mr. Steelman reported that he had to move out of the area in October 1954 because of stormy weather conditions before the location work was completed.

Equipment owned by the applicants:

	Condition
1 - Truck, 1/2 ton pickup (1954)	Good
1 - Jeep	Fair
2 - Jackhammers, drill steel & hoses	"
1 - Air compressor, 210 cfm (Being used under a rental-purchase contract)	Good
Miscellaneous hand tools	Fair

GENERAL GEOLOGY

The Bigelow Peak tungsten claims are in an area of high relief and sparse vegetation near the crest of the Sierra Nevada. Bedrock exposures are almost continuous except for occasional narrow debris flows and rock slides. The claims are underlain by steeply dipping

interbedded quartz-mica schist, quartzite, and marble which have been highly crenulated and folded. The bedding and schistosity in the vicinity of the prospect strike generally northwesterly and dip steeply to the west.

These metamorphic rocks appear to be part of a roof pendant in granitic intrusive rocks of probable Cretaceous age. Numerous dikes and sills of aplite and pegmatite have intruded the pendant. The nearest exposure of the main mass of granitic rock is approximately 1,700 feet northwest of the prospect area.

Small lenses and thin interbeds of limestone have been metamorphosed to tactite with which the tungsten ore deposits are associated.

A fault striking northeasterly and dipping steeply east cuts the main tactite zone at the north end of the prospect. A second fault striking northwesterly and dipping steeply west parallels the tactite zone for at least 200 feet at the south end of the prospect area. This fault cuts off quartz-mica schist and quartzite which strike N75°E east of the tactite zone (fig. 2).

ORE DEPOSITS

The tungsten ore bodies are small, irregular layers of tactite roughly concordant with the steeply dipping marble beds and lenses from which they were derived. The tactite layers on the surface range from 2 to 30 feet in width and 10 to 70 feet in length, and can be traced

by discontinuous outcrops for at least 1,100 feet along the strike. About 13 of these layers are exposed.

Scheelite, the only tungsten mineral that was seen, is disseminated through at least a part of all of the tactite bodies. Most of the scheelite occurs as spotty coatings along irregular fractures. Some, however, is in crystals 1/8 to 1/2 inch in diameter. Gangue minerals are garnet, epidote, pyroxene, and pyrite.

SAMPLING

The deposit was lamped with ultraviolet light on July 25, 1955 and a few samples were taken on July 26, 1955. Preliminary prospecting at the property has not been completed and there were few faces suitable to sample. Sample locations are indicated on fig. 2.

Sample No.	Width, feet	%, WO_3	Description
S-367	6	0.25	Select scheelite bearing tactite from best exposure on Bigelow No. 1 Claim.
S-368	6	0.11	Scheelite bearing tactite south side discovery cut Bigelow No. 2 Claim.
S-369	2	0.02	Tactite outcrop at bottom of rock slide, Bigelow No. 2 Claim.
S-370	Grab	*0.01	Grab sample from 5 tons of selected hand sorted scheelite bearing tactite at discovery cut, Bigelow No. 2 Claim.

The largest exposure of ore has been found in the main pit (fig. 2) where a six foot chip sample along the south side of the pit assayed 0.11 percent WO_3 (Sample 368). A rock slide about 150 feet long and 10 to 20 feet wide trends northwesterly along the tactite zone from the pit down a 20 degree slope. More than half of the slide material consists of boulders of tactite 6 to 10 inches in diameter. A grab sample of this tactite from near the north edge of the main pit was estimated to contain 0.5 percent but assayed only 0.01 percent WO_3 (S-370), and a two foot chip sample of tactite in place near the foot of the slide assayed 0.02 percent WO_3 (S-369). It is possible that the slide material is very nearly in place.

A 30 by 40 foot outcrop of tactite near the south end of the prospect area (fig. 2) assayed 0.25 percent WO_3 (S-367).

ORE RESERVES

Judging from the exposures seen and the four samples taken, it is unlikely that any commercial ore exists on the Bigelow Peak tungsten claims.

Measured reserves of scheelite-bearing material amount to approximately 200 tons of loose tactite averaging less than 0.1 percent WO_3 in the slide area down slope from the main pit in Bigelow No. 2 claim and approximately 40 tons of loose tactite containing 0.25 percent WO_3 on the 30 by 40 foot tactite outcrop near the south end of

the prospect area in Bigelow No. 1 claim.

There are no indicated reserves.

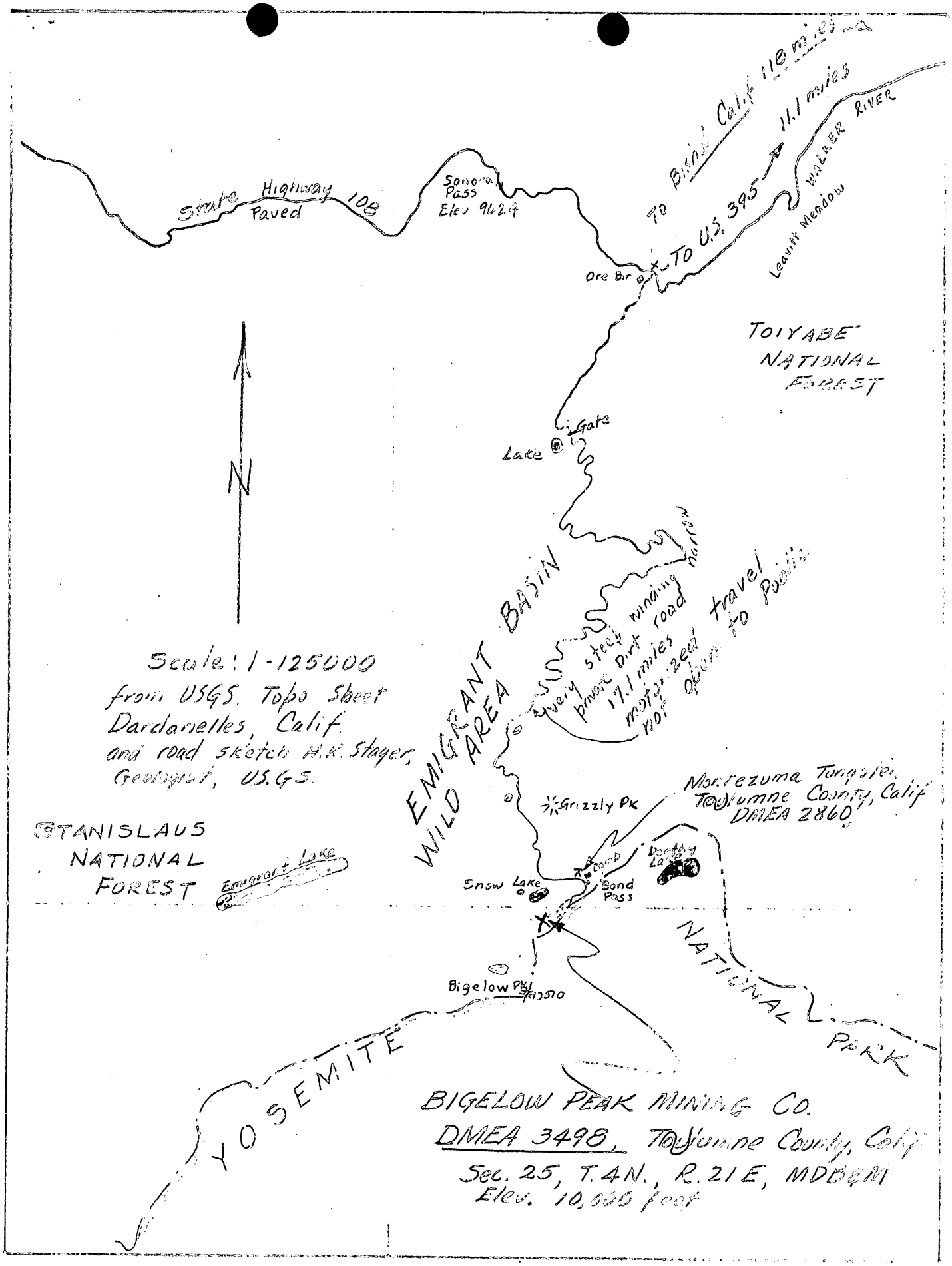
Inferred reserves are 2,000 tons of tactite averaging less than 0.1 percent WO_3 and 200 tons containing 0.25 percent WO_3.

PROPOSED EXPLORATION

The Bigelow Peak tungsten claims are on a raw prospect. The applicants had made no exploration proposals, but in conference with the examiners they now propose an exploration program consisting of two stages, with all work confined to the Bigelow No. 2 claim.

Stage I - Five trenches each 25 feet long across the tactite zone at 30 foot intervals beginning at the north edge of the main pit and working north downslope. The boulders of tactite and wall rock should be removed from the slide area before trenching is begun.

Stage II - Five diamond drill holes spaced 30 feet apart to be started about 100 feet west of the slide zone and drilled downward at 50° at a bearing of N15°E so as to intersect the tactite layer at a depth of approximately 100 feet. Or, in lieu of drilling, an adit might be driven if trenching proves the ore to be continuous and of sufficient grade beneath the slide.

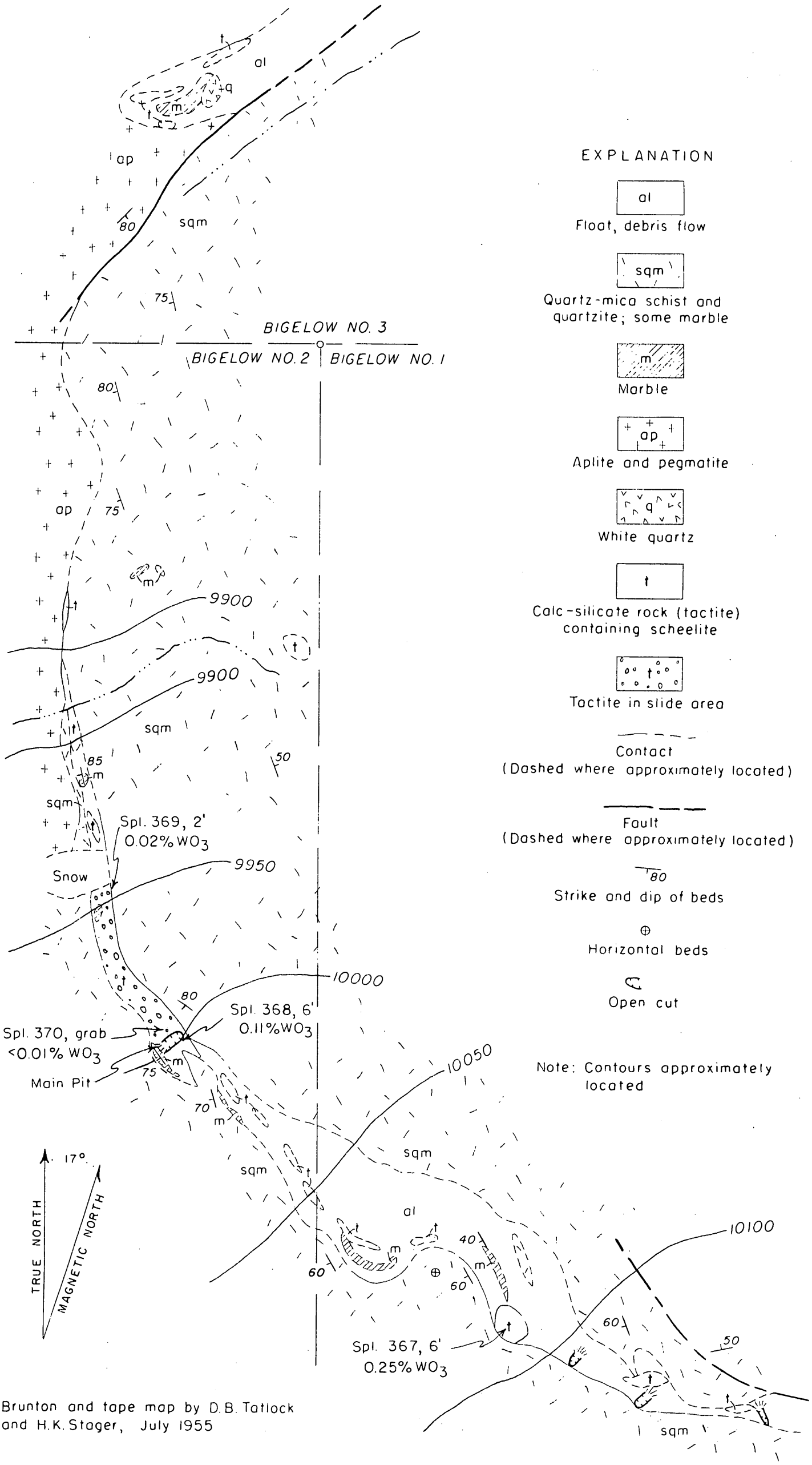


Location Sketch

Figure 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DMEA 3498
(TUNGSTEN)



Brunton and tape map by D.B. Tatlock and H.K. Stager, July 1955

PART OF BIGELOW PEAK CLAIMS
TUOLUMNE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

100 0 100 200 Feet

Figure 2

400

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

RECEIVED
SEP 1 3 1955

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

September 14, 1955

Copy returned 400

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D.C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 (Tungsten)
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

Reference is made to your letter of September 7, 1955 requesting status of subject docket.

The property was examined by B. H. Sheahan, Bureau of Mines and H. K. Stager, Geological Survey on July 25-26, twelve days after we were advised by the owners that it was accessible. The report is completed and will be typed and forwarded to Washington within a few days.

The report will recommend that the application for an exploration loan be denied.

S. Ricker

SRicker:gh
cc: File
R. M. Smith, USGS

SEP - 7 1955

Mr. Spangler Richer, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 1498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Dear Mr. Richer:

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 16, 1954, advising that an examination of the referenced property could not be made until late spring in 1955. As of this date we have had no further advise as to the status of this proposed examination. Will you please advise us if an examination has been made and when we may expect a report on same.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

APPROVED:

P. F. Yopes

Member, Bureau of Mines

/s/ M. E. Nelson

Member, Geological Survey

TLChapman/foc
9-2-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Read. File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
R. W. Holliday, USBM
T. H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

Code 4
3498

The Mining Record -- Thursday, November 25, 1954

TUOLUMNE MINING PROPERTY SHOWS HIGH ORE VALUE

San Francisco, Calif.-- Out in the rough and wild Emigrant Basin area of Tuolumne County in California, the Tuolumne Tungsten Mining Company, a partnership, is mining some 4 per cent tungsten ore at the eastern edge of Snow Lake in the shadow of Bigelow Peak.

About 220 tons of the ore has been established as the goal of the miners before 114 inches of snow closes operations for the winter. The tungsten is mined by blasting into the vein, then the high-grade ore is picked for shipment to U. S. Vanadium in Bishop for milling. A powerful 75 watt ultra violet light is used as the miners sort the ore, stockpiling lesser ore bearing rock for possible later shipments.

MARINE ENGINEERS PARTNERS

Principal working partners in the company are Frank Swanser, vice-president and general manager, Les Cooper, an attorney, secretary-treasurer, Art Paultney, vice-president, Jimmy Hines and Larry Goins. All but Goins reside in San Francisco, where Swanser, Paultney and Hines are marine engineers during the winter season.

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

402

NOV 22 1954

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

November 16, 1954

Memorandum

To: George C. Selfridge, Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA
Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

In order that you may be currently informed on action taken on above subject docket, we are enclosing three copies of a memorandum dated November 12, 1954, from A. C. Johnson on the results of an attempted field examination.

You will note that the property will probably be inaccessible until late spring of next year.

S. RICKER

S. Ricker
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Attachment

Copy to: Roscoe Smith, USGS

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Mining Division

1605 Evans Avenue

November 12, 1954

Memorandum

To: Mr. S. Ricker, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team
Region III

From: Chief, Mining Division, Region III

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

In reference to your memorandum of November 9, an attempt was made to examine the Bigelow Peak Tungsten property on November 10, 1954. Mr. Benjamin H. Sheahan, Mining Engineer of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Mr. H. K. Stager, Geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, and Mr. Robert Tyler, one of the applicants for DMEA assistance, were unable to reach the property as the road had been closed by snow drifts.

The claims are situated in extremely rugged, mountainous country in Section 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., M.D.B.& M., at an altitude of approximately 10,000 feet.

For your information, the Bigelow Peak property is located near the Tuolumne Tungsten Mining Company (Montezuma Mine), Tuolumne County, California, which is described by examination report DMEA-2860 and by previous Access Road examination report.

According to information that has been furnished me by Mr. Sheahan, there are no underground workings on the claims and the geology of the area has been mapped by the U. S. Geological Survey.

The applicant is to advise me when the road is open again so that another examination can be scheduled. It is doubtful that the road will be open during the present season, which means that the examination will probably have to be made in the late spring next year.

A. C. Johnson

CC: Mr. R. M. Smith, USGS

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

400

NOV 1 6 1954

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, California

November 12, 1954

Hon. Ernest G. Brown
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Air Mail Docket DMEA-3498 (Tungsten)
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Tuolumne County, California

My dear Senator Brown:

I wish to acknowledge your telegram of November 9 relative to the above-subject docket.

The application and substantiating data have been referred to our engineers for a field examination and recommendation. Every effort will be made to examine the property before it becomes inaccessible owing to the fall snows.

We thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration program.

Sincerely yours,

S. RICKER

S. Ricker
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Copy to: C. O. Mittendorf-DMEA, Washington, D.C.

400

OCT 25 1954

Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerlington, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Gentlemen:

The above-docketed application for exploration assistance for tungsten has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and referred to Mr. H. C. Miller, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III, 420 Customhouse Building, 555 Battery Street, San Francisco 11, California, for a field examination of the property.

Any assistance that you can render the members of the Field Team will be appreciated.

The location map, California Dardanelles Quadrangle, and the claim map submitted with your letter of October 13, 1954, will be returned by the Field Team.

Sincerely yours,

C. C. Mittendorf

Administrator

cc: DOCKET
FIELD TEAM, REG. III
CODE 400
ADM. READ. FILE
OPER. COMMITTEE
R. W. GEEHAN, USBM
THOR KIILSGAARD, USGS

FARutledge/ls
10-25-54

OCT 2 5 1954

Mr. H. C. Miller, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
420 Customhouse Building
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Dear Mr. Miller:

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

Two copies of the Applicant's letter dated October 13, 1954, with map attached, are enclosed. Though the information submitted with the application was insufficient to warrant a field examination, it is now believed that little additional data will be obtained from the Applicant. A field examination will be required, therefore, to determine if the deposit warrants exploration assistance by the Government.

Also enclosed are the location map and original of the claim map submitted by the Applicant. Please return these to the Applicant as requested.

Two copies of a relevant memorandum dated September 27, 1954, by E. L. Newcomb, Geological Survey, and two copies of a memorandum dated October 1, 1954, by R. W. Geehan, Bureau of Mines, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee

Enclosures

APPROVED:

J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey

FARutledge:foc
10-25-54
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. III
R. W. Geehan, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

COPY

400

P. O. Box 463
Yerington, Nevada
October 13, 1954

Mr. W. S. Martin, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolomne County, California

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of September 28th requesting further information in connection with our application for exploration assistance regarding our tungsten prospect (Docket No. DMEA 3498 - tungsten Bigelow Peak Claims, Tuolumne County, California).

Attached hereto is a USGS California Dardanelles quadrangle map. The area in which the claims are located are marked on this map near Dorothy Lake.

Attached also is a sketch of the claims showing also the general strike of the veins and other factors pertaining to it. This area can be generally termed as virgin territory as far as geological information is concerned, although the USGS geologic index map for the northern part of the state of California refers to this area as (336) "tungsten deposits of Dorothy Lake" and refers to preliminary maps made in 1943 (fig. 2, 1:600 and 3, 1:1, 200 by D. M. Lemon, M. E. Beatty, and H. R. Stranger), none of which are available. Until recently, no production of tungsten ore has come out of this general area but a mine is now operating within this general area.

The Bigelow group of claims appear to have real merit for development into a large production mine. The deposit is contact metamorphic (tactite) having a limestone hanging wall and a granite footwall. The ore contains scheelite, garnet, epidote, quartz, calcite and minor amounts of sulfides. The scheelite occurs as large bluish-white crystals indicating mineral liberation at relatively coarse mesh which further indicates high recovery of the mineral by gravity concentration.

The veins are partially exposed at the surface, when lamped at night, all show mineralization in varying degree.

The Bigelow No. 1 and No. 2 claims - the vein is approximately 4 feet wide and averages 1.69 percent WO_3. Samples taken at random on other veins at the surface and composited show an average of 0.51 percent WO_3.

It is believed that this group of claims warrant further investigation. Perhaps we were in error in applying for an exploration loan. The words "exploration" and "development" are confusing and are often used interchangeably. We believe we have the makings of a good tungsten mine to

produce a vital critical mineral. All that we want is an examination of the property by a government geologist and mining engineer and if the findings of this team warrants further investigation, to apply for a loan to diamond drill as many holes as the engineers recommend to prove or disapprove the respective merit of the property for commercial development and production. It is suggested that the examination be made as soon as snow, which may appear in November, will prevent making the examination.

Very truly yours,

BIGELOW PEAK MINING CO.

By Walter Cox
Partner

P. S. Please return the enclosed map and sketch when they have serves their purpose.

400

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

October 1, 1954

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, DMEA, Room 3538

From: R. W. Geehan

Subject: DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Mining claims
Tuolumne County, California

The subject application contains no maps and no evidence to demonstrate the presence of tungsten ore. Bureau records do not indicate a prior examination.

The application should be referred to the Field Team so that an examination may be scheduled before winter conditions set in.

R. W. Geehan

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
RECEIVED
SEP 23 1954

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

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. 3498
Metal or Mineral TUNGSTEN
Date Received
Estimated Cost $26,300
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: Earl Steelman, Robert Tyler, Willard Hanson, Jack Carpenter, Walter Cox, Antone Lilja, J. G. Hilgart, Carl G. Gelmstedt, all of Yerington, Nevada, a partnership dba Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Box 683, Yerington, Nevada

(*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 Bigelow Mining Claim, File No. 3668, and Bigelow Peak Mining Claim, File No. 3667, both recorded on Page 267 of Volume 2E, Quartz Mining Claim Records of Tuolumne County, California, at Tuolumne County Court House, Sonora, Calif.

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. Bigelow Peak Mining Co.

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

(*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 None

(*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 wish 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 Sept 20, 1954

Bugelous Peak Mining Co.
(Applicant)

By Jack Carpenter

Walter Box

Carl O. Gelmstedt

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.

4. Physical Description--

(a) Operations now being contemplated consist of plans for construction of about two miles of access road to the deposit to facilitate shipment of ore. The deposit is within walking distance of the present existing road but it is rugged country and the access road will have to follow a larger route.

(b) No past or current production. There is a considerable tonnage now laying loose and ready to be shipped and the engineers who have examined the property are very enthusiastic about the deposit.

(c) Contact deposit of tungsten ore about twenty feet wide with quartzite hanging wall and schist footwall, depth unknown.

(d) The deposit is at an elevation of about 10,000 feet above sea level and a nearby tungsten mine has constructed about 17 miles of road over which ore is now being shipped. The road for the subject property will be about two miles more. The trucking contractor hauling from the nearby mine has quoted a price of $17.00 per ton for delivery of the ore from the mine itself to a mill at Bishop, California.

(e) Three members of the partnership will devote their entire time to the project. Materials are available at several small cities within a radius of 100 miles and there are smaller towns within fifty miles of the property. Water is within easy walking distance of the deposit at which it is proposed to construct the reclamation camp. No power available.

5(a) Contact deposit of Tungsten.

(b) No present mine workings. There is at least 100 ton of slide ore-bearing material now available for shipment.

(c) Work has started with reference to getting equipment for the construction of the access road, blasting where necessary for the road has started and it is planned to start shipping as soon as the road is completed. The completion of all phases of the camp etc will require a year or two, depending upon the severity of the coming winter.

(d) Three members of the partnership will devote their entire time to the project. One member of the partnership has been a miner most of his life and four members have been closely related to the mining industry for several years.

6. Estimate of Costs--

(a)	Bulldozer operations on access roads. Estimated 200 hrs @ $12.00	2,400.00
	Drilling of Deposit. No figures presently available. Estimated	10,000.00
(b)	Partnership labor -- 2,000 hours @ $2.00	4,000.00
	Engineering and geological consultants	1,000.00
(c)	Operating Materials and supplies	2,000.00
(d)	Rental of Compressor, jackhammers etc.	1,000.00
	Company Pickup furnished	400.00
(e)	Camp	
(f)	Bunkhouse and cookhouse	2,500.00
	Shop	1,000.00
(g)	Miscellaneous	2,000.00
		$26,300.00

7. (a) Yes

(b) Partnership is starting with an operating fund of $4,000.00 which will be increased as the need arises. Therefore, our share will be furnished in money and use of equipment owned by the partnership.

400

SEP 28 1954

Bigalow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerlington, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigalow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Gentlemen:

The above-referenced application for exploration assistance in exploring for tungsten has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration.

The information submitted with your application is insufficient to justify a field examination by the Government. To substantiate the occurrence of tungsten on your property and permit us to consider your application further, you should provide us with the following data:

1. Location map.

2. Description of the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit, and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Include any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

3. Analyses of samples with sketch map showing location.

4. Description of 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 as related to such features as contacts, veins, and ore-bearing beds.

5. Detailed estimate of the costs for each type of work proposed.

We will, therefore, hold your application in abeyance until the requested data have been received.

FARutledge:fec 9-28-54
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
FT. REG. III
R. W. Geehan, USBM
Thor H. Killsgaard, USGS

Sincerely yours,

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

402

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

September 27, 1954

Re: DMEA-3498
Bigelow Peak Mining Co.
(Bigelow Peak Claims)
Tuolumne County, Calif.
$26,300 - Tungsten

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

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

Subject: Review of application

Further data should be requested from the applicant. Our copy of the application does not even mention the location of the claims.

The proposed work is not clearly outlined. Apparently this is a raw prospect which needs a road and some bedrock exposures more than anything else.

Before a field referral is even considered for this application, the operator should provide data on claim locations, a type of geologic map, private reports if available, sample assays, and a description of the geologic setting or the proximity of the property to a nearby known deposit or active mining operation.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-9/27/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
R. W. Geehan, 3513

402

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

Department of the Interior
Public Lands Administration
RECEIVED
SEP 27 1954

dmea 3498
rec'd 9-23-54

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

September 21, 1954

Hon. Clifton Young
House of Representatives
421 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Young:

I acknowledge your letter of September 17, 1954, concerning the Bigelow Mining Company's application for an exploration loan and the desirability of expediting the application as only about six weeks remain before the property will be snowbound.

The application from the Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Yerington, Nevada, arrived in this office on September 21 and copies have been forwarded air mail to the Washington office.

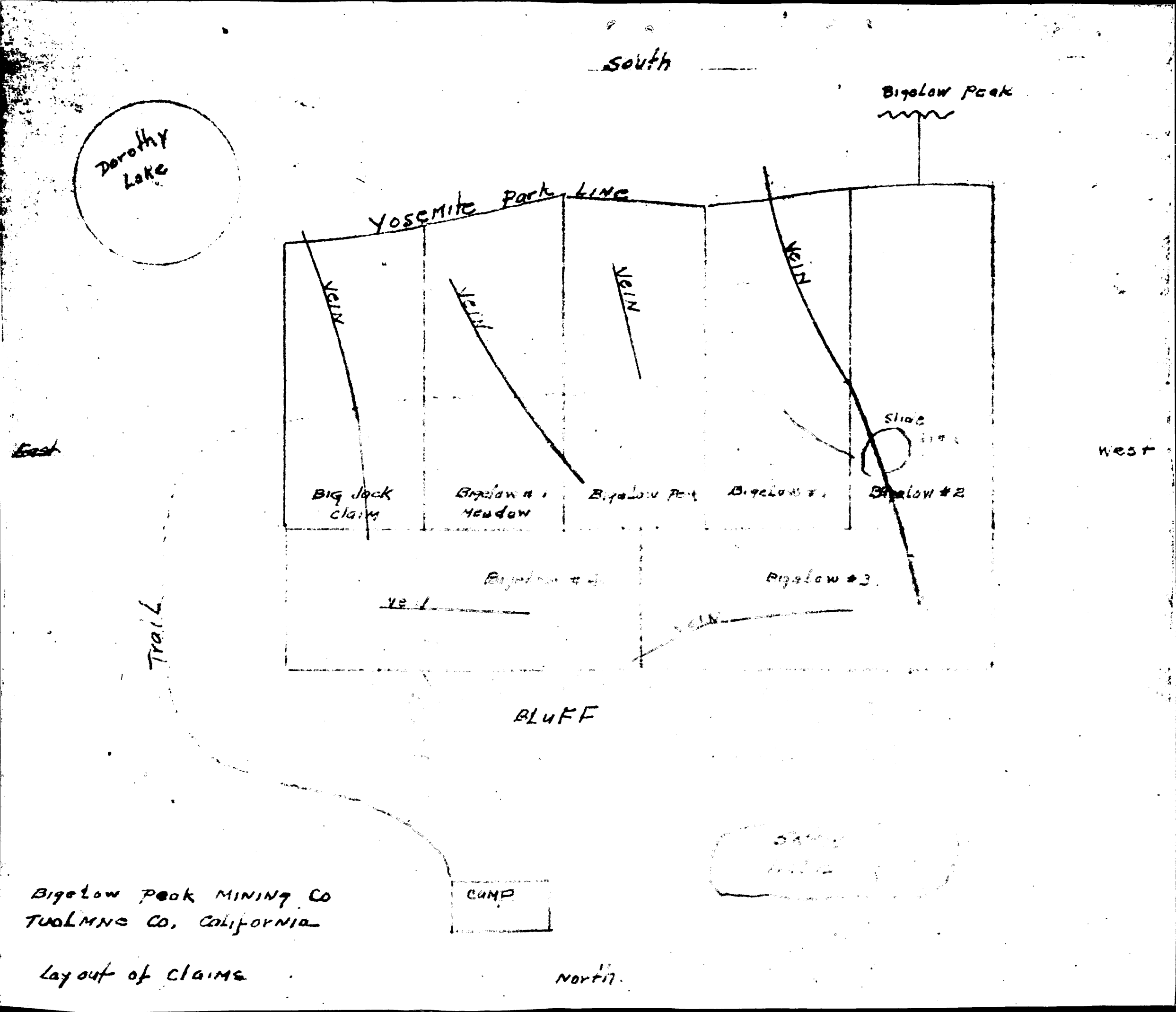
The Washington office will no doubt request an examination of the property, in which event you may be assured that we will make every effort to carry out our part of the processing of the application before snow flies.

Sincerely yours,

H. C. MILLER

H. C. Miller
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Copy to: DMEA, Washington, D. C.
Roscoe Smith, USGS
A. C. Johnson, Reno


South
Bigelow Peak
Dorothy Lake
Yosemite Park Line
Vein
Vein
Vein
Vein
Slide
East
West
Big Jack claim
Bigelow #1 Meadow
Bigelow Peak
Bigelow #1
Bigelow #2
Bigelow #4
Bigelow #3
Vein
Vein
Trail
BLUFF
CAMP
Bigelow Peak Mining Co
Tuolmne Co, California
Layout of Claims
North.

400

DOCKET
Surname:
Holt
Martin
Nelson
Stephen
Selfridge
Johnson

OCT 3 - 1955

Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerington, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Gentlemen:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other data available to us in Washington concerning the above-referenced 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 our information, although noting a small amount of tungsten mineralization in surface pits and open cuts on the Bigelow Peak claims, indicates to us that the probability of disclosing minable tungsten ore reserves by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. Under these circumstances, we regret to advise you that your application is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration program and for bringing this property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

cc: Docket
Code 400
Oper. Comm.
T. Kiilsgaard, USGS
W. McInnis, USBM
Adm. Read. File
FT, Reg. 2

SPHolt/ls
9/26/55

R.C.B.

400

DOCKET
Surname:
Holt
Martin
Nelson
Gechan
Selfridge
Fitzpatrick

OCT 3 - 1955

Hon. Alan Bible
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator Bible:

On November 4, 1954, Mrs. Florence of your office requested that you be informed when we had completed action on an application for exploration assistance submitted by the Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Box 463, Yerington, Nevada, our docket No. DMEA 3498-Tungsten, Bigelow Peak claims, Tuolumne County, California.

After a field examination of the referenced property and consideration of all available data, we have concluded that the probability of disclosing minable ore reserves by the applicant's proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation in an exploration project. We regret to advise you, therefore, that this application has been denied.

For your information, a copy of our letter of denial to the Bigelow Peak Mining Company is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Docket
Adm. Read. File
Code 400
Oper. Committee
T. Killsgaard, USGS
W. McInnis, USBM
FT, Reg. 2

SPHolt/ls
9/28/55

R.C.S.

DOCKET
Surname:
Holt
Martin

September 27, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrator, DMEA

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Subject: Denial of request for exploration assistance in the amount of $26,300
Docket No. DMEA 3498-Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Mining Claims
Tuolumne County, California

The denial of the subject application is recommended by this Division based on the following information:

(1) The applicant, Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Box 463, Yerington, Nevada, requested exploration assistance in the amount of $26,300.00 for 125 feet of bulldozer trenching in 5 trenches and approximately 650 feet of diamond drilling in 5 holes on the Bigelow Peak mining claims.

(2) The applicant owns the following unpatented lode mining claims:

Bigelow Peak
Bigelow Peak No. 1
Bigelow Peak No. 2
Bigelow Peak No. 3
Bigelow Peak No. 4
Bigelow Meadow No. 1
Big Jack

Bigelow Peak No. 1 and Bigelow Peak No. 2 claims are recorded in Volume 22, on page 267, of the records of Tuolumne County, at the County Court House, Sonora, California. The claims are situated within the Stanislaus National Forest, in Section 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., M. D. B. & M., Tuolumne County, California, approximately 1 mile southwest of the Montezuma Tungsten Mine (Docket No. DMEA 2860), at elevations of 10,000 to 10,500 feet, and adjacent to the north boundary of the Yosemite National Park.

(3) The proposed program is, Stage I, to bulldoze 5 trenches, each 25 feet long, across the tactite zone at 30-foot intervals, and, Stage II, to drill 5 diamond drill holes, spaced 30 feet apart, at minus 50 degrees inclination, to intersect the tactite layer at depths of approximately 100 feet. It was suggested that an adit might be driven in lieu of drilling if Stage I trenching proved the ore to be continuous beneath the talus slide and of sufficient grade.

(4) In the area covered by the Bigelow Peak claims sparse tungsten mineralization is exposed in outcrops and surface open cuts, and also occurs in talus slide material, but there is little indication that minable bodies of tungsten ore will be discovered by work under the applicant's proposed program.

(5) The Field Team concludes that there is little probability of making a significant discovery and recommends denial. The Commodity Division of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur in this recommendation.

(6) The Field Team's geologists and engineers attempted to make an examination of this property on November 10, 1954, but were turned back by deep snow which made roads impassable. The examination was made on July 25 and 26, 1955, only 12 days after the applicant notified the Field Team that the access road had been cleared of snow and reopened.

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

SPHolt/ls
9/26/55

cc: Docket
Code 400
Oper. Comm.
Adm. Read. File

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

RECEIVED
1955

September 28, 1955

Memorandum

To: Chief, Iron and Ferroalloys Division - DMEA
Through: Acting Chief, Branch of Ferrous Metals & Ferroalloys

From: Commodity Specialist

Subject: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

I have reviewed the field team report and concur with their recommendation that the application be denied because of the improbability of disclosing tungsten ore reserves of minable quality.

Wilmer McInnis

Wilmer McInnis

September 28, 1955

Memorandum

To: Chief, Iron and Ferroalloys Division - DMEA
Through: Acting Chief, Branch of Ferrous Metals & Ferroalloys

From: Commodity Specialist

Subject: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

I have reviewed the field team report and concur with their recommendation that the application be denied because of the improbability of disclosing tungsten ore reserves of minable quality.

Wilmer McInnis

WMcInnis/jbr

Copy to Ferrous Metals
W. McInnis
Files

September 28, 1955

Memorandum

To: Chief, Iron and Ferroalloys Division - DMEA
Through: Acting Chief, Branch of Ferrous Metals & Ferroalloys

From: Commodity Specialist

Subject: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

I have reviewed the field team report and concur with their recommendation that the application be denied because of the improbability of disclosing tungsten ore reserves of minable quality.

Wilmer McInnis

WMcInnis/jbr

Copy to Ferrous Metals
W. McInnis
Files

September 28, 1955

Memorandum

To: Chief, Iron and Ferroalloys Division - DMEA
Through: Acting Chief, Branch of Ferrous Metals & Ferroalloys

From: Commodity Specialist

Subject: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

I have reviewed the field team report and concur with their recommendation that the application be denied because of the improbability of disclosing tungsten ore reserves of minable quality.

Wilmer McInnis

WMcInnis/jbr

Copy to Ferrous Metals
W. McInnis
Files

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

September 27, 1955

MEMORANDUM

To: Administrator, DMEA

From: Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, DMEA

Subject: Denial of request for exploration assistance in the amount of $26,300
Docket No. DMEA 3498-Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Mining Claims
Tuolumne County, California

The denial of the subject application is recommended by this Division based on the following information:

(1) The applicant, Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Box 463, Yerington, Nevada, requested exploration assistance in the amount of $26,300.00 for 125 feet of bulldozer trenching in 5 trenches and approximately 650 feet of diamond drilling in 5 holes on the Bigelow Peak mining claims.

(2) The applicant owns the following unpatented lode mining claims:

Bigelow Peak
Bigelow Peak No. 1
Bigelow Peak No. 2
Bigelow Peak No. 3
Bigelow Peak No. 4
Bigelow Meadow No. 1
Big Jack

Bigelow Peak No. 1 and Bigelow Peak No. 2 claims are recorded in Volume 22, on page 267, of the records of Tuolumne County, at the County Court House, Sonora, California. The claims are situated within the Stanislaus National Forest, in Section 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., M. D. B. & M., Tuolumne County, California, approximately 1 mile southwest of the Montezuma Tungsten Mine (Docket No. DMEA 2860), at elevations of 10,000 to 10,500 feet, and adjacent to the north boundary of the Yosemite National Park.

(3) The proposed program is, Stage I, to bulldoze 5 trenches, each 25 feet long, across the tactite zone at 30-foot intervals, and, Stage II, to drill 5 diamond drill holes, spaced 30 feet apart, at minus 50 degrees inclination, to intersect the tactite layer at depths of approximately 100 feet. It was suggested that an adit might be driven in lieu of drilling if Stage I trenching proved the ore to be continuous beneath the talus slide and of sufficient grade.

(4) In the area covered by the Bigelow Peak claims sparse tungsten mineralization is exposed in outcrops and surface open cuts, and also occurs in talus slide material, but there is little indication that minable bodies of tungsten ore will be discovered by work under the applicant's proposed program.

(5) The Field Team concludes that there is little probability of making a significant discovery and recommends denial. The Commodity Divisions of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines concur in this recommendation.

(6) The Field Team's geologists and engineers attempted to make an examination of this property on November 10, 1954, but were turned back by deep snow which made roads impassable. The examination was made on July 25 and 26, 1955, only 12 days after the applicant notified the Field Team that the access road had been cleared of snow and reopened.

W S Martin

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Docket

RECEIVED

SEP 26 1955

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

September 26, 1955

Re: DMEA 3498
Bigelow Peak Mining Co.
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, Calif.
$26,300 - Tungsten

Copy retained 400

WSM

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

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

Subject: Review of Field Team Report.

The nicely done report supports the conclusions of the examiners and the recommendation of a denial of the application by the Field Team. Some mineral fluorescent under the lamp and mistaken for scheelite appears to have mislead the applicants.

I concur with the recommendation of the Field Team.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

Copy retained 400

DMEA

Docket

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

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

September 19, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

Pursuant to your letter of October 25, 1954, we are attaching four copies of a field examination report on above subject property by B. H. Sheahan, Bureau of Mines and Don B. Tatlock and H. K. Stager, both of the Geological Survey.

The examination was delayed owing to inaccessibility during the winter and early spring. The report recommends that the application for exploration aid be denied. Roscoe Smith and I approve of the recommendation.

S. Ricker

Attach.

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
9-26-55
(date)

BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D. C.
SEP 21 8 33 AM '55

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DOUGLAS McKAY, SECRETARY

RECEIVED
SEP 1 1 1955

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM
REGION II

APPLICATION REPORT

DMEA-3498 (Tungsten) Bigelow Peak Claims
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Tuolumne County, California

By

B. H. Sheahan
Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

Don B. Tatlock
Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

H. K. Stager
Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

September 16, 1955

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
9-26-55
(date)

CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .	2
LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY AND LOCAL RESOURCES	2
HISTORY AND PRODUCTION	4
PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP	4
COMPETENCY OF APPLICANT	5
DEVELOPMENT	6
GENERAL GEOLOGY	6
ORE DEPOSITS	7
SAMPLING	8
ORE RESERVES	9
PROPOSED EXPLORATION	10

ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1. Location map

Fig. 2. Part of Bigelow Peak Claims, Tuolumne County, California

INTRODUCTION

Messrs. Jack Carpenter, Walter Cox, Carl O. Gelmstedt, and five other partners of the Bigelow Peak Mining Company, whose mailing address is P. O. Box 463, Yerington, Nevada, applied for Government assistance in a $26,300 program to explore for tungsten at their property in the high Sierra Nevada Mountains, Tuolumne County, California.

The original application, docket No. DMEA-3498, was poorly prepared since there was no definite exploration proposal, objective, target or location. The claims were staked by the partners in September 1954, and an application for exploration assistance was filed September 20, 1954. A field examination was requested by the Operating Committee on October 25, 1954 and an attempt was made to examine the prospect on November 10, 1954, but early snow storms prevented an examination.

Mr. Carl O. Gelmstedt notified the Executive Officer, DMEA, Region II that the access road was reopened on July 13, 1955 and the property was examined July 25 and 26, 1955 by B. H. Sheahan of the Bureau of Mines and Don B. Tatlock and H. K. Stager of the Geological Survey who were accompanied by Messrs. Robert Tyler, Earl Steelman and Willard Hanson, all of whom are partners in the company.

The scope of the examination included lamping the more pronounced outcrops with ultraviolet light and mapping and sampling the better mineralized sections.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The claims cover several poorly mineralized and generally small, tactite bodies of which only one was considered worth examining in detail. Sample analyses of the scheelite bearing tactite were considerably lower grade than lamping estimates indicated. The probability of making a significant discovery of tungsten ore is slight, although preliminary prospecting at the property has not been completed. The geographic location, short operating season and the difficult access to the property are other factors which discourage exploration.

It is recommended that the applicant's request for Government aid in the proposed exploration be denied because of the grade of the deposit, and the apparent lack of commercial ore anywhere on the Bigelow Peak claims.

LOCATION, ACCESSIBILITY AND LOCAL RESOURCES

The prospect is in sec. 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., MDB&M., Tuolumne County, California, approximately one mile southwest of the Montezuma Tungsten Mine (docket No. DMEA-2860). The claims are within the Stanislaus National Forest at an elevation of 10,000 to 10,500 feet, and adjacent to the north boundary line of the Yosemite National

Park (Fig. 1).

To reach the property from Bridgeport, California, which is the nearest town, follow paved US Highway 395 northerly 17 miles to State Highway 108; turn left and follow paved State Highway 108 westerly 11.1 miles to a dirt road indicated by a small 15-ton capacity wooden ore bin; turn left and follow a very steep winding narrow dirt road 17.1 miles southerly along the crest of the Sierra Nevada mountains to the Montezuma Tungsten mine; thence one mile southwest by a two mile trail by way of Bond Pass (elevation 9,800 feet). A four speed low gear pickup truck, weighted in the back end, or a jeep is needed to travel over the dirt road. The road is closed by a locked gate and is posted by the U.S. Forest Service as follows: "Emigrant Basin Wild Area; Not Open to Public Motorized Travel".

The operating season is usually from July through September. The climate is severe during the spring, autumn and winter , and snow depths of 20 to 30 feet have been reported. Snow drifts reach much greater depths in canyons and freezing weather occurs throughout the year. The drainage is into Snow Lake and the land is of high recreational value as a primative area and water shed.

Water is available at the property. Electric power is not available and the nearest telephone is at Leavitt Meadows Pack Station, a distance of 28 miles. The wage scale for miners is from $18.00 to

$25.00 per day. Trucking charges to transport ore from the Montezuma Mine (inactive) to the U.S. Vanadium mill at Pine Creek near Bishop, California was reported to have been $17.00 per ton, but would exceed this from the Bigelow Peak property. The distance is approximately 135 miles. There are no living accommodations or improvements. The operators are using the camp at the Montezuma mine where two cabins and a shed are available.

HISTORY AND PRODUCTION

The Bigelow Peak property was discovered in 1942 by Mr. Willard Hanson, one of the locators and his father-in-law, Mr. L. W. Osborn who is one of the owners of the Montezuma. The Bigelow Peak No. 1 and No. 2 claims were located by Mr. Willard Hanson and associates on September 9, 1954. There has been no production from the property.

PROPERTY AND OWNERSHIP

The property includes a group of seven unpatented mining claims. The Bigelow Peak No. 1 and Bigelow Peak No. 2 were reported to be recorded in Vol. 22, Page 267, at the Tuolumne County Courthouse, Sonora, California. A property map submitted with the docket application indicates the Bigelow Peak, Bigelow Peak No. 1 to No. 4 inclusive, the Bigelow Meadow No. 1 and the Big Jack. The claims were all staked in September 1954.

Messrs. Willard Hanson, Earl Steelman, and Robert Tyler own a 75 percent interest; and the remaining 25 percent interest is owned by Messrs. Jack Carpenter, Walter Cox, Carl O. Gelmstedt, Antone Lilja, and J. G. Hilgart, all of whom are from Yerington, Nevada. The group is a partnership and is doing business as the Bigelow Peak Mining Co. Other mineral claims have been staked in the vicinity by the partners and other parties.

The claims monuments on some of the land on the south end, extends into the Yosemite National Park.

COMPETENCY OF APPLICANT

The applicants are poorly qualified to conduct an exploration project, because of insufficient mining experience. Mr. Willard Hanson has prospected the area and has interested the other partners in the deposit. Messrs. Tyler and Steelman are carpenters. These three men intend to construct a road to the Bigelow No. 2 claim and hand sort scheelite bearing tactite from the slide area. They plan to ship ore to the U. S. Vanadium Mill at Pine Creek. They hope to gain some information regarding the grade of the material by producing a few 8-ton lots of ore.

The other partners are providing financial assistance and are probably able to provide their share of an exploration loan. Messrs.

Carpenter and Cox are employed at Yerington, Nevada in the publishing business. Mr. Antone Lilja is an elderly prospector, and Mr. J. G. Hilgart is a construction workman. Mr. Carl O. Gelmstedt is in the real estate and insurance business. Mr. L. Benson, a contractor from Smith Valley, Nevada, has been hired to assist them with access road construction work.

DEVELOPMENT

The only work done on the claims included a part of the location work requirements of 1954. An excavation cut on the Bigelow No. 2 claim was 10 feet high at the face, about 4 feet wide and 15 feet long. Most of the other cuts were smaller. At the Bigelow No. 3, the location hole was only 2 feet deep, 5 feet long, and 3 feet wide. Mr. Steelman reported that he had to move out of the area in October 1954 because of stormy weather conditions before the location work was completed.

Equipment owned by the applicants:

	Condition
1 - Truck, 1/2 ton pickup (1954)	Good
1 - Jeep	Fair
2 - Jackhammers, drill steel & hoses	"
1 - Air compressor, 210 cfm	Good
(Being used under a rental-purchase contract)	
Miscellaneous hand tools	Fair

GENERAL GEOLOGY

The Bigelow Peak tungsten claims are in an area of high relief and sparse vegetation near the crest of the Sierra Nevada. Bedrock exposures are almost continuous except for occasional narrow debris flows and rock slides. The claims are underlain by steeply dipping

interbedded quartz-mica schist, quartzite, and marble which have been highly crenulated and folded. The bedding and schistosity in the vicinity of the prospect strike generally northwesterly and dip steeply to the west.

These metamorphic rocks appear to be part of a roof pendant in granitic intrusive rocks of probable Cretaceous age. Numerous dikes and sills of aplite and pegmatite have intruded the pendant. The nearest exposure of the main mass of granitic rock is approximately 1,700 feet northwest of the prospect area.

Small lenses and thin interbeds of limestone have been metamorphosed to tactite with which the tungsten ore deposits are associated.

A fault striking northeasterly and dipping steeply east cuts the main tactite zone at the north end of the prospect. A second fault striking northwesterly and dipping steeply west parallels the tactite zone for at least 200 feet at the south end of the prospect area. This fault cuts off quartz-mica schist and quartzite which strike N75°E east of the tactite zone (fig. 2).

ORE DEPOSITS

The tungsten ore bodies are small, irregular layers of tactite roughly concordant with the steeply dipping marble beds and lenses from which they were derived. The tactite layers on the surface range from 2 to 30 feet in width and 10 to 70 feet in length, and can be traced

by discontinuous outcrops for at least 1,100 feet along the strike. About 13 of these layers are exposed.

Scheelite, the only tungsten mineral that was seen, is disseminated through at least a part of all of the tactite bodies. Most of the scheelite occurs as spotty coatings along irregular fractures. Some, however, is in crystals 1/8 to 1/2 inch in diameter. Gangue minerals are garnet, epidote, pyroxene, and pyrite.

SAMPLING

The deposit was lamped with ultraviolet light on July 25, 1955 and a few samples were taken on July 26, 1955. Preliminary prospecting at the property has not been completed and there were few faces suitable to sample. Sample locations are indicated on fig. 2.

Sample No.	Width, feet	%, WO_3	Description
S-367	6	0.25	Select scheelite bearing tactite from best exposure on Bigelow No. 1 Claim.
S-368	6	0.11	Scheelite bearing tactite south side discovery cut Bigelow No. 2 Claim.
S-369	2	0.02	Tactite outcrop at bottom of rock slide, Bigelow No. 2 Claim.
S-370	Grab	*0.01	Grab sample from 5 tons of selected hand sorted scheelite bearing tactite at discovery cut, Bigelow No. 2 Claim.

The largest exposure of ore has been found in the main pit (fig. 2) where a six foot chip sample along the south side of the pit assayed 0.11 percent WO_3 (Sample 368). A rock slide about 150 feet long and 10 to 20 feet wide trends northwesterly along the tactite zone from the pit down a 20 degree slope. More than half of the slide material consists of boulders of tactite 6 to 10 inches in diameter. A grab sample of this tactite from near the north edge of the main pit was estimated to contain 0.5 percent but assayed only 0.01 percent WO_3 (S-370), and a two foot chip sample of tactite in place near the foot of the slide assayed 0.02 percent WO_3 (S-369). It is possible that the slide material is very nearly in place.

A 30 by 40 foot outcrop of tactite near the south end of the prospect area (fig. 2) assayed 0.25 percent WO_3 (S-367).

ORE RESERVES

Judging from the exposures seen and the four samples taken, it is unlikely that any commercial ore exists on the Bigelow Peak tungsten claims.

Measured reserves of scheelite-bearing material amount to approximately 200 tons of loose tactite averaging less than 0.1 percent WO_3 in the slide area down slope from the main pit in Bigelow No. 2 claim and approximately 40 tons of loose tactite containing 0.25 percent WO_3 on the 30 by 40 foot tactite outcrop near the south end of

the prospect area in Bigelow No. 1 claim.

There are no indicated reserves.

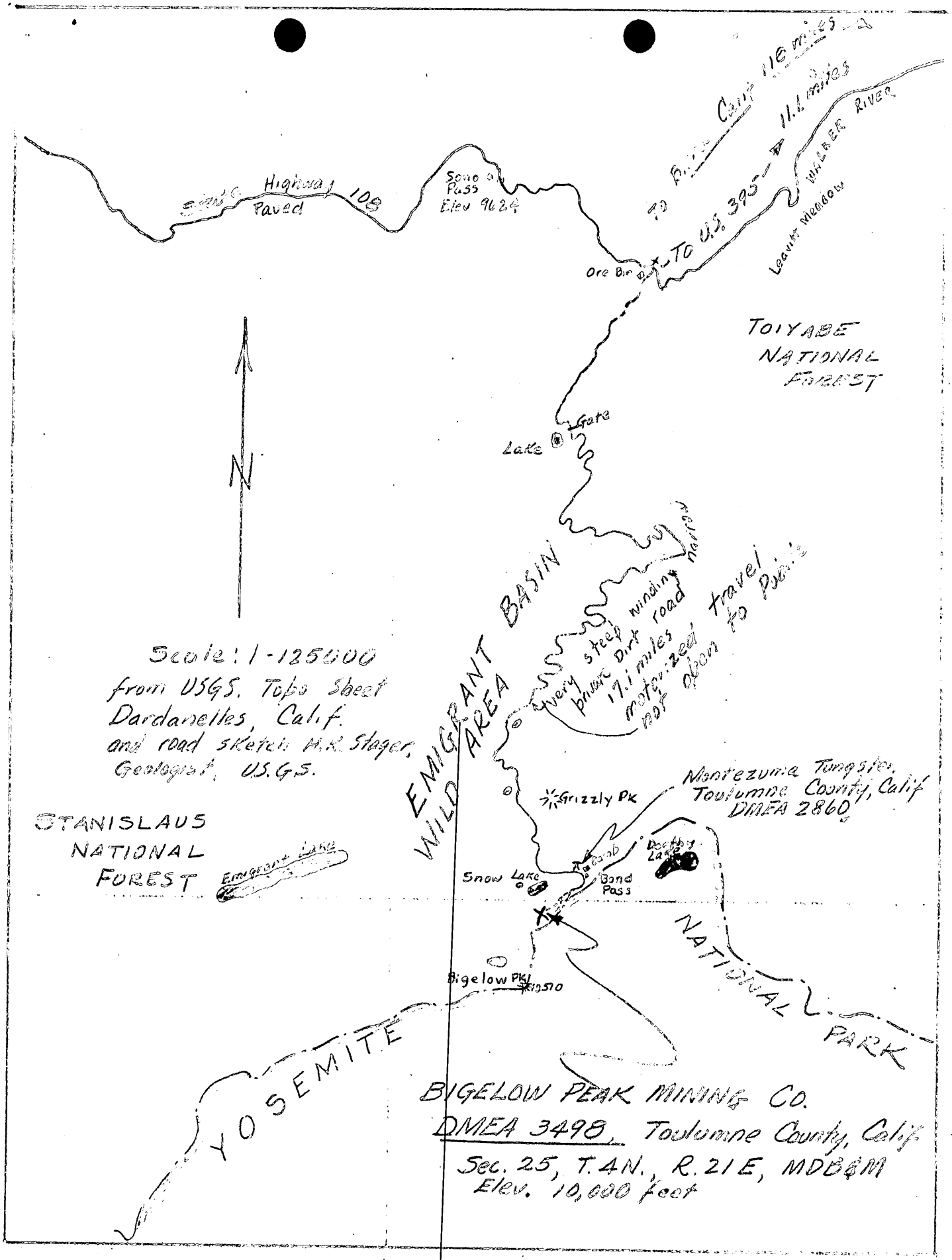
Inferred reserves are 2,000 tons of tactite averaging less than 0.1 percent WO_3 and 200 tons containing 0.25 percent WO_3.

PROPOSED EXPLORATION

The Bigelow Peak tungsten claims are on a raw prospect. The applicants had made no exploration proposals, but in conference with the examiners they now propose an exploration program consisting of two stages, with all work confined to the Bigelow No. 2 claim.

Stage I - Five trenches each 25 feet long across the tactite zone at 30 foot intervals beginning at the north edge of the main pit and working north downslope. The boulders of tactite and wall rock should be removed from the slide area before trenching is begun.

Stage II - Five diamond drill holes spaced 30 feet apart to be started about 100 feet west of the slide zone and drilled downward at 50° at a bearing of $N15^{\circ}E$ so as to intersect the tactite layer at a depth of approximately 100 feet. Or, in lieu of drilling, an adit might be driven if trenching proves the ore to be continuous and of sufficient grade beneath the slide.

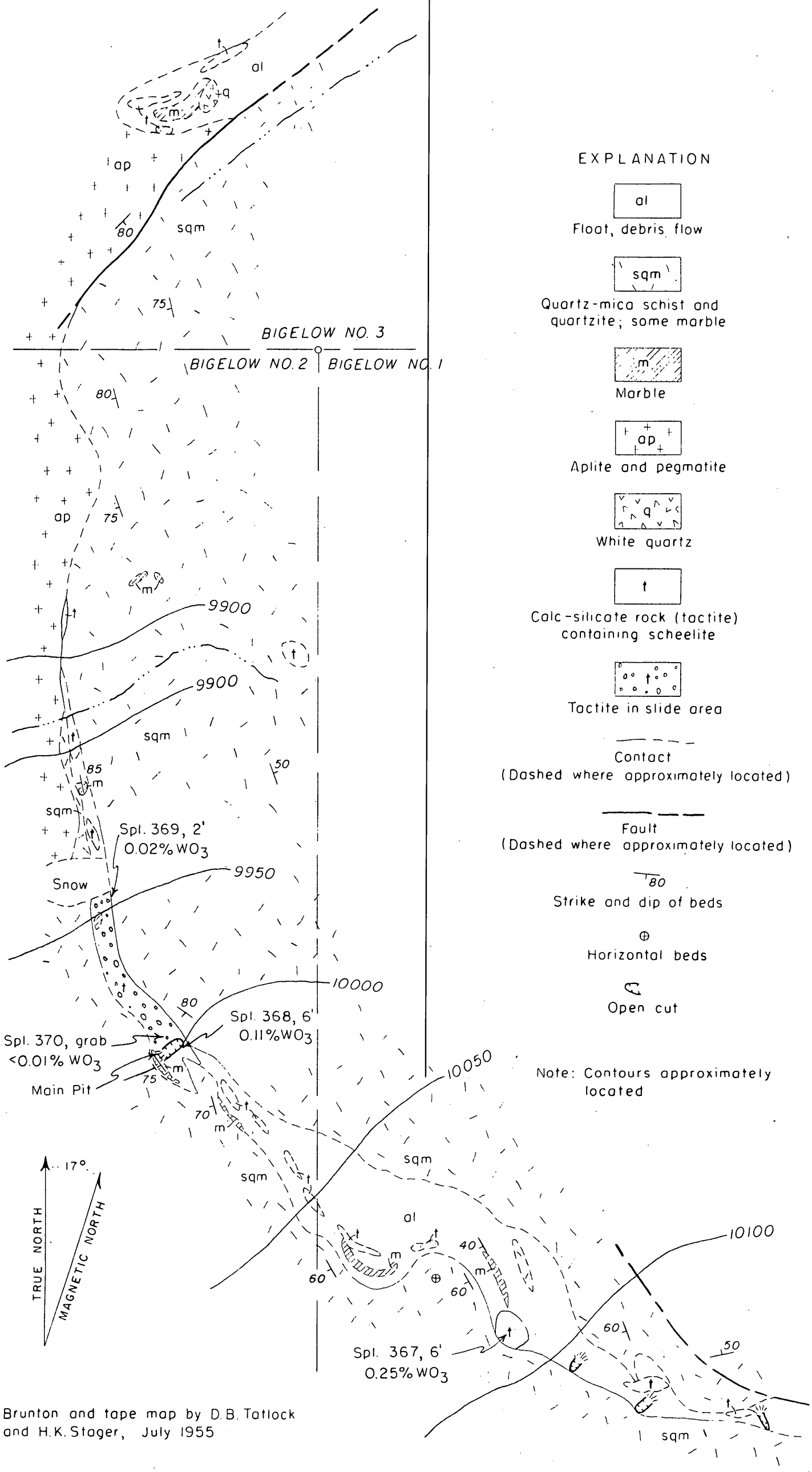


Location Sketch

Figure 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DMEA 3498
(TUNGSTEN)



Brunton and tape map by D.B. Tatlock and H.K. Stager, July 1955

PART OF BIGELOW PEAK CLAIMS
TUOLUMNE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Figure 2

DMEA

Docket

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

RECEIVED
SEP 1 3 1955

1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

September 14, 1955

WSM

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA, Interior Building, Washington 25, D.C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region II

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 (Tungsten)
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

Copy retained 400

Reference is made to your letter of September 7, 1955 requesting status of subject docket.

The property was examined by B. H. Sheahan, Bureau of Mines and H. K. Stager, Geological Survey on July 25-26, twelve days after we were advised by the owners that it was accessible. The report is completed and will be typed and forwarded to Washington within a few days.

The report will recommend that the application for an exploration loan be denied.

S. Ricker

Docket 3498

Mr. Martin says that when this report comes in, and denial is written, it should be noted that exam. could not be made last fall on account of snow, but was made this year, within 12 days of time F.T. was notified site was accessible.

S.P.H.

BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON, D.C.
SEP 16 8 23 AM '55

DOCKET
SURNAME
Chapman
400 Selfridge
Mottesdow

SEP - 7 1955

Mr. Spangler Ricker, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II
1605 Evans Avenue
Reno, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Dear Mr. Ricker:

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 16, 1954, advising that an examination of the referenced property could not be made until late spring in 1955. As of this date we have had no further advise as to the status of this proposed examination. Will you please advise us if an examination has been made and when we may expect a report on same.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (JHB)

APPROVED:

P. F. Yopes (JHB)
Member, Bureau of Mines

/s/ M. E. Nelson (JHB)
Member, Geological Survey

TLChapman/foc
9-2-55
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Read. File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. II
R. W. Holliday, USBM
T. H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

R.C.S.

Record

3498

The Mining Record -- Thursday, November 25, 1954

TUOLUMNE MINING PROPERTY SHOWS HIGH ORE VALUE

San Francisco, Calif.-- Out in the rough and wild Emigrant Basin area of Tuolumne County in California, the Tuolumne Tungsten Mining Company, a partnership, is mining some 4 per cent tungsten ore at the eastern edge of Snow Lake in the shadow of Bigelow Peak.

About 220 tons of the ore has been established as the goal of the miners before 114 inches of snow closes operations for the winter. The tungsten is mined by blasting into the vein, then the high-grade ore is picked for shipment to U. S. Vanadium in Bishop for milling. A powerful 75 watt ultra violet light is used as the miners sort the ore, stockpiling lesser ore bearing rock for possible later shipments.

MARINE ENGINEERS PARTNERS

Principal working partners in the company are Frank Swanser, vice-president and general manager, Les Cooper, an attorney, secretary-treasurer, Art Paultney, vice-president, Jimmy Hines and Larry Goins. All but Goins reside in San Francisco, where Swanser, Paultney and Hines are marine engineers during the winter season.

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

Docket

NOV 22 1954

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

November 16, 1954

Memorandum

To: George C. Selfridge, Chairman, Operating Committee, DMEA
Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

In order that you may be currently informed on action taken on above subject docket, we are enclosing three copies of a memorandum dated November 12, 1954, from A. C. Johnson on the results of an attempted field examination.

You will note that the property will probably be inaccessible until late spring of next year.

S. Ricker
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Attachment

Copy to: Roscoe Smith, USGS

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Mining Division

1605 Evans Avenue

November 12, 1954

Memorandum

To: Mr. S. Ricker, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team
Region III

From: Chief, Mining Division, Region III

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolumne County, California

In reference to your memorandum of November 9, an attempt was made to examine the Bigelow Peak Tungsten property on November 10, 1954. Mr. Benjamin H. Sheahan, Mining Engineer of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Mr. H. K. Stager, Geologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, and Mr. Robert Tyler, one of the applicants for DMEA assistance, were unable to reach the property as the road had been closed by snow drifts.

The claims are situated in extremely rugged, mountainous country in Section 25, T. 4 N., R. 21 E., M.D.B.& M., at an altitude of approximately 10,000 feet.

For your information, the Bigelow Peak property is located near the Tuolumne Tungsten Mining Company (Montezuma Mine), Tuolumne County, California, which is described by examination report DMEA-2860 and by previous Access Road examination report.

According to information that has been furnished me by Mr. Sheahan, there are no underground workings on the claims and the geology of the area has been mapped by the U. S. Geological Survey.

The applicant is to advise me when the road is open again so that another examination can be scheduled. It is doubtful that the road will be open during the present season, which means that the examination will probably have to be made in the late spring next year.

A. C. Johnson

CC: Mr. R. M. Smith, USGS

11-4-54

Mrs. Florence, Sen. Brown's office called about Bigelow Peak Mining Co.

Code 190 X1186

Was told docket referred to field for field examination of property. Asked to be kept informed. Was told we would do so.

Added that office would soon be Sen. Bible's office but extension same as above.

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

400
DOCKET
SURNAME
Rutledge
Martin
Newcomb
Selfridge
Hedges

OCT 25 1954

Mr. H. C. Miller, Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region II I
420 Customhouse Building
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, California

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Dear Mr. Miller:

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

Two copies of the Applicant's letter dated October 13, 1954, with map attached, are enclosed. Though the information submitted with the application was insufficient to warrant a field examination, it is now believed that little additional data will be obtained from the Applicant. A field examination will be required, therefore, to determine if the deposit warrants exploration assistance by the Government.

Also enclosed are the location map and original of the claim map submitted by the Applicant. Please return these to the Applicant as requested.

Two copies of a relevant memorandum dated September 27, 1954, b by E. L. Newcomb, Geological Survey, and two copies of a memorandum dated October 1, 1954, by R. W. Geehan, Bureau of Mines, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee (GCS)

Enclosures

APPROVED:

J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines (JHH)

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey (THK)

FARutledge:foc
10-25-54
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
Operating Comm.
FT. REG. III
R. W. Geehan, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

R.C.4.

400

DOCKET
SURNAME:
Rutledge
Martin
Newcomb
Hedges
Kiilsgaard
Selfridge
Johnson

OCT 25 1954

Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerlington, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Gentlemen:

The above-docketed application for exploration assistance for tungsten has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and referred to Mr. H. C. Miller, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III, 420 Customhouse Building, 555 Battery Street, San Francisco 11, California, for a field examination of the property.

Any assistance that you can render the members of the Field Team will be appreciated.

The location map, California Dardanelles Quadrangle, and the claim map submitted with your letter of October 13, 1954, will be returned by the Field Team.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

cc: DOCKET
FIELD TEAM, REG. III
CODE 400
ADM. READ. FILE
OPER. COMMITTEE
R. W. GEEHAN, USBM
THOR KIILSGAARD, USGS

FARutledge/ls
10-25-54

A.C.S.

DOCKET

P. O. Box 463
Yerington, Nevada
October 13, 1954

Mr. W. S. Martin, Chief
Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Washington, 25, D. C.

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Claims
Tuolomne County, California

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of September 28th requesting further information in connection with our application for exploration assistance regarding our tungsten prospect (Docket No. DMEA 3498 - tungsten Bigelow Peak Claims, Tuolumne County, California).

Attached hereto is a USGS California Dardanelles quadrangle map. The area in which the claims are located are marked on this map near Dorothy Lake.

Attached also is a sketch of the claims showing also the general strike of the veins and other factors pertaining to it. This area can be generally termed as virgin territory as far as geological information is concerned, although the USGS geologic index map for the northern part of the state of California refers to this area as (336) "tungsten deposits of Dorothy Lake" and refers to preliminary maps made in 1943 (fig. 2, 1:600 and 3, 1:1, 200 by D. M. Lemon, M. E. Beatty, and H. R. Stanger), none of which are available. Until recently, no production of tungsten ore has come out of this general area but a mine is now operating within this general area.

The Bigelow group of claims appear to have real merit for development into a large production mine. The deposit is contact metamorphic (tactite) having a limestone hanging wall and a granite footwall. The ore contains scheelite, garnet, epidote, quartz, calcite and minor amounts of sulfides. The scheelite occurs as large bluish-white crystals indicating mineral liberation at relatively coarse mesh which further indicates high recovery of the mineral by gravity concentration.

The veins are partially exposed at the surface, when lamped at night, all show mineralization in varying degree.

The Bigelow No. 1 and No. 2 claims - the vein is approximately 4 feet wide and averages 1.69 percent WO_3. Samples taken at random on other veins at the surface and composited show an average of 0.51 percent WO_3.

It is believed that this group of claims warrant further investigation. Perhaps we were in error in applying for an exploration loan. The words "exploration" and "development" are confusing and are often used interchangeably. We believe we have the makings of a good tungsten mine to

Mader

produce a vital critical mineral. All that we want is an examination of the property by a government geologist and mining engineer and if the findings of this team warrants further investigation, to apply for a loan to diamond drill as many holes as the engineers recommend to prove or disapprove the respective merit of the property for commercial development and production. It is suggested that the examination be made soon as snow, which may appear in November, will prevent making the examination.

Very truly yours,

BIGELOW PEAK MINING CO.

By Walter Cox

Walter Cox
Partner

P. S. Please return the enclosed map and sketch when they have served their purpose.

South

Bigelow Mtn

Dorothy Lake

Yosemite Park Line

Yelt

Yelt

Yelt

Yelt

FAR
10-11-54

Senator McCarran's office called about reply to wire of Sept. 28, 1954, directed to Mittendorf asking for information regarding date of examination. Call from Margary Pence, Code 190, X1662.

Neither our mail room, Administrator's office, or this Division received referenced wire. Docket has copy of letter to Hon. Clifton Young from Miller. It is possible said wire was also sent to Miller.

The Senator's office was advised that further consideration of application was being held in abeyance pending receipt of more information from applicant.

J.W.R.

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

Docket

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

October 1, 1954

Memorandum

WSM

To: W. S. Martin, DMEA, Room 3538

From: R. W. Geehan

Subject: DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Mining claims
Tuolumne County, California

The subject application contains no maps and no evidence to demonstrate the presence of tungsten ore. Bureau records do not indicate a prior examination.

The application should be referred to the Field Team so that an examination may be scheduled before winter conditions set in.

R. W. Geehan

R. W. Geehan

Docket
Surname
400 Rutledge
Martin
Johnson

SEP 28 1954

Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerlington, Nevada

Re: Docket No. DMEA 3498 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak claims
Tuolumne County, California

Gentlemen:

The above-referenced application for exploration assistance in exploring for tungsten has been reviewed by the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration.

The information submitted with your application is insufficient to justify a field examination by the Government. To substantiate the occurrence of tungsten on your property and permit us to consider your application further, you should provide us with the following data:

1. Location map.

2. Description of the geologic features of the property, including mineralization, type of deposit, and your reasons for wishing to explore. Illustrate with maps or sketches. Include any geologic or engineering report, assay maps, or other technologic information you may have, indicating on each whether you require its return to you.

3. Analyses of samples with sketch map showing location.

4. Description of 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 as related to such features as contacts, veins, and ore-bearing beds.

5. Detailed estimate of the costs for each type of work proposed.

We will, therefore, hold your application in abeyance until the requested data have been received.

FARutledge:foc 9-28-54
cc to: Docket
Code 400
Adm. Reading File
FT. REG. III
R. W. Geehan, USBM
Thor H. Kiilsgaard, USGS

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

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

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

Docket

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

September 21, 1954

Hon. Clifton Young
House of Representatives
421 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

dmea 3498
rec'd 9-23-54.

WSM

My dear Mr. Young:

I acknowledge your letter of September 17, 1954, concerning the Bigelow Mining Company's application for an exploration loan and the desirability of expediting the application as only about six weeks remain before the property will be snowbound.

The application from the Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Yerington, Nevada, arrived in this office on September 21 and copies have been forwarded air mail to the Washington office.

The Washington office will no doubt request an examination of the property, in which event you may be assured that we will make every effort to carry out our part of the processing of the application before snow flies.

Sincerely yours,

H. C. MILLER

H. C. Miller
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Copy to: DMEA, Washington, D. C.
Roscoe Smith, USGS
A. C. Johnson, Reno

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Docket

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

September 27, 1954

Re: DMEA-3498
Bigelow Peak Mining Co.
(Bigelow Peak Claims)
Tuolmne County, Calif.
$26,300 - Tungsten

Memorandum

To: W. S. Martin
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

WSM

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

Subject: Review of application

Further data should be requested from the applicant. Our copy of the application does not even mention the location of the claims.

The proposed work is not clearly outlined. Apparently this is a raw prospect which needs a road and some bedrock exposures more than anything else.

Before a field referral is even considered for this application, the operator should provide data on claim locations, a type of geologic map, private reports if available, sample assays, and a description of the geologic setting or the proximity of the property to a nearby known deposit or active mining operation.

E. L. Newcomb

E. L. Newcomb

Over Submitted 400

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

September 23, 1954

Memorandum

To: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

From: Chief, Operation's Control and Statistics Division

Subject: Assignment of Docket Number

There is listed below the assigned docket number to an application recently received from Region III.

DMEA - 3498 Bigelow Peak Mining Co. (dba)

Robert E. Adams,
Chief, Operation's Control
and Statistics Division

Septmeber 23, 1954

Bigelow Peak Mining Co. (dba)
Box 463
Yerington, Nevada

Subject: DMEA-3498
Re: Exploration Assistance

Gentlemen:

The receipt of your application dated September 20, 1954 for exploration assistance under the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, is hereby acknowledged.

Your application has been assigned Docket Number DMEA-3498 and referred to the Iron and Ferro-Alloys Division.

Kindly refer to in any future correspondence relating to your application.

Sincerely yours,

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
SEP 23 1954

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

Air Mail

September 21, 1954

Memorandum

To: Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

Subject: Application Forms MF-103 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerington, Nevada

Attached are three sets of MF-103 Forms received in our mail today from the Bigelow Peak Mining Company making application for a loan on a tungsten deposit in Tuolumne County, California. The fourth set has been retained for our files.

H. C. Miller
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Attachment

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
SEP 23 1954

420 Custom House
555 Battery Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

September 21, 1954

Memorandum

To: Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

From: Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region III

Subject: Application Forms MF-103 - Tungsten
Bigelow Peak Mining Company
Box 463
Yerington, Nevada

Attached are three sets of MF-103 Forms received in our mail today from the Bigelow Peak Mining Company making application for a loan on a tungsten deposit in Tuolumne County, California. The fourth set has been retained for our files.

H. C. MILLER

H. C. Miller
Executive Officer
DMEA Field Team, Region III

Attachment

MF-103
(Revised April 1952)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
RECEIVED
SEP 23 1954

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

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. 3498
Metal or Mineral Tungsten
Date Received
Estimated Cost $26,300
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: Earl Steelman, Robert Tyler, Willard Hanson, Jack Carpenter, Walter Cox, Antone Lilja, J. G. Hilgart, Carl O. Gelmstedt, all of Yerington, Nevada, a partnership dba Bigelow Peak Mining Company, Box 463, Yerington, Nevada

(*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 Bigelow Mining Claim, File No. 2688, and Bigelow Peak Mining Claim, File No. 2687, both recorded on Page 267 of Volume 22, Quartz Mining Claim Records of Tuolmne County, California, at Tuolmne County Court House, Sonora, Calif.

(*b*) State any mine name by which the property is known. Bigelow Peak Mining Co.

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

(*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 None

(*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 wish 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 Sept 20, 1954

Bigelow Peak Mining Co.
(Applicant)

By Jack Carpenter

Walter Cox

Carl O. Gelmstedt

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.

Department of
Mineral
RECE
SEP 23 195

4. Physical Description--

(a) Operations now being conducted consist of plans for construction of about two miles of access road to the deposit to facilitate shipment of ore. The deposit is within walking distance of the present existing road but it is rugged country and the access road will have to follow a longer route.

(b) No past or current production. There is a considerable tonnage now laying loose and ready to be shipped and the engineers who have examined the property are very enthusiastic about the deposit.

(c) Contact deposit of tungsten ore about twenty feet wide with quartzite hanging wall and schist footwall, depth unknown.

(d) The deposit is at an elevation of about 10,000 feet above sea level and a nearby tungsten mine has constructed about 17 miles of road over which ore is now being shipped. The road for the subject property will be about two miles more. The trucking contractor hauling from the nearby mine has quoted a price of $17.00 per ton for delivery of the ore from the mine itself to a mill at Bishop, California.

(e) Three members of the partnership will devote their entire time to the project. Materials are available at several small cities within a radius of 100 miles and there are smaller towns within fifty miles of the property. Water is within easy walking distance of the deposit at which it is proposed to construct the residence camp. No power available.

5.(a) Contact deposit of Tungsten.

(b) No present mine workings. There is at least 100 ton of slide ore-bearing material now available for shipment.

(c) Work has started with reference to getting equipment for the construction of the access road, blasting where necessary for the road has started and it is planned to start shipping as soon as the road is completed. The completion of all phases of the camp etc will require a year or two, depending upon the severity of the coming winter.

(d) Three members of the partnership will devote their entire time to the project. One member of the partnership has been a miner most of his life and four members have been closely related to the mining industry for several years.

6. Estimate of Costs--

(a)	Bulldozer operations on access roads. Estimated 200 Hrs @ $12.00	2,400.00
	Drilling of Deposit. No figures presently available. Estimated	10,000.00
(b)	Partnership labor -- 2,000 Hours @ $2.00	4,000.00
	Engineering and geological consultants	1,000.00
(c)	Operating Materials and supplies	2,000.00
(d)	Rental of Compressor, jackhammers etc.	1,000.00
	Company Pickup furnished	400.00
(e)	None	
(f)	Bunkhouse and cookhouse	2,500.00
	Shop	1,000.00
(g)	Miscellaneous	2,000.00
		$26,300.00

7. (a) Yes

(b) Partnership is starting with an operating fund of $4,000.00 which will be increased as the need arises. Therefore, our share will be furnished in money and use of equipment owned by the partnership.