FEB 2 1953

Mr. Joseph R. Berry
Vice-President
American Talc Company
77 River Street
Boston, New Jersey

Subject: Docket No. [illegible] - Talc
Docket No. [illegible] - Talc
Cherokee County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Berry:

Your applications for exploration on federal [illegible] Horton, Moore, and Kennedy properties (Application [illegible]) and the Angel Mine (Application [illegible]) in Cherokee County, North Carolina, have been reviewed by the Bureau [illegible] and [illegible].

The use of government funds in an exploration project is considered justified only if there is evidence that the proposed project has a reasonably good chance of resulting in the discovery or development of reserves of minerals in sufficient quantities to significantly improve the internal supply for national defense.

The evidence that you have submitted, and other available information, does not show that the probability of making a significant discovery of vermiculite which sale is sufficiently encouraging to justify Government participation in the work proposed in the two applications. Your applications for assistance in these two cases are, therefore, denied.

Your request to the Defense Materials Procurement Administration's program to aid the strategic supply for Government stockpile is approved.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

JRobertson:gad 1/30/53
Copy to: Admr. [illegible] File
Docket File
Screening Committee
Mr. Muhlman, 3530
Mr. Horton, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

Field Team, Region VII

January 30, 1953

Memorandum

To: Mr. C. C. Mittenforf, Administrator

From: J. T. Robertson, Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Docket No. DMMA-2345 -(Block Soapstone Talc)
Regal Mine, Cherokee County, North Carolina

Applicant: American Talc Company
77 River Street
Hoboken, New Jersey

Correspondent: Joseph R. Ferry, Vice-President

A Chronological Record of Docket: A Denial

5/22/52 Received application for exploration assistance in the amount of $40,000.00.

5/26/52 Received memo from [illegible], [illegible], recommending a field examination.

6/3/52 Received memo from [illegible], [illegible], recommending a field examination.

6/9/52 Applicant notified that application was referred to Robert A. Laurence, Region VII, for field examination.

6/10/52 Operating Committee requests field examination from Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer, Region VII.

6/27/52 Received [illegible] examination report. Report prepared jointly by [illegible], Mining Engineer, [illegible], and Robert A. Laurence, Geologist, [illegible]. Report recommends a diamond drilling project totaling $30,150.

7/7/52 Memorandum from [illegible], [illegible] questions presence of strategic steatite talc.

7/17/52 Acting Administrator sent letter to Mr. Joseph R. Ferry, Vice-President of Company stating that processing of application will be held up for at least 90 days pending receipt of results of Hitchcock Corporation's drilling which was then testing a portion of the Murphy Marble Belt.

Memorandum - J. T. Robertson, Nonmetallic Minerals Division to Operating Committee. This memo explains in some detail the negative results obtained from the 22 holes drilled by the Hitchcock Corporation and recommends that exploration assistance be denied.

_____ Administrator's letter to applicant advising that the application for an exploration assistance project is denied.

J. T. Robertson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

JTRobertson:gad 1/30/53

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

Memorandum January 30, 1953

To: Chairman, Operating Committee

From: [illegible], Nonmetallic Minerals Section

Subject: [illegible] 544 and [illegible]-2545 (Phase [illegible])
[illegible] Line and Moore, [illegible] and Cornwall Mines
[illegible] Talc Company
Cherokee County, North Carolina

[illegible]

[illegible] talc [illegible] in commercial [illegible] talc [illegible] for stock-piling.

[illegible] 1952 [illegible] contract, [illegible], drilling [illegible] of [illegible] drilling, the depth of holes varied from 15[illegible] ft. to 450 ft. [illegible] of 1952 [illegible] 65% of the total [illegible] had been drilled.

[illegible] the quality tests [illegible], the results of the Hitchcock Corporation drilling are negative. Commercial talc was encountered in some of the holes drilled but none was disclosed [illegible] spacers.

[illegible] core samples were tested by the [illegible], [illegible] 1952. The results of the tests are given by Mr. H. W. [illegible], Assistant Chief, Inspection Branch, [illegible] the following. (Quoted from letter 1[illegible]/4/52.)

> "In accordance with your request, we have made a baking test on four core samples from the Hitcocck Corporation project, labeled 1198-7,8,9, and 10. As is to be expected of stratified talc of this type, the samples cracked along the lines of stratification, making the material unsatisfactory for production of tube spacers."

Using the results of the Hitchcock Corporation project as a basis for judging the potential strategic steatite possibilities of the Murphy Marble belt as a whole, it would seem, that the entire belt, which is similar in geologic structure, offer slight chance for finding high quality steatite. Furthermore, despite the past considerable production of crayon talc and powdered talc, the area has not contributed cure-cancer talc to the stockpile, now, or in the past.

The Domestic Minerals Division is, moreover, of the opinion that the applications of the American Talc Company under discussion, [illegible] and [illegible], should not be denied [illegible] [illegible].

A letter of denial is prepared for the Administrator's signature and [illegible].

[illegible]
Domestic Minerals Division

[illegible] Final Geologist's report and final assay have not yet been made on the Hitchcock Corporation operation. However, [illegible] under the contract and [illegible] the final report.

Because of the discovery of essential talc, it is our intention when final reports are [illegible], to make a [illegible] of discovery on the Hitchcock Corporation project.

JHGoert:mgd 1/[illegible]/53

Copy to: Mr. [illegible] File
Docket File
Mr. Houl[illegible]

Mr. Joseph R. Ferry
Vice-President
American Talc Company
77 River Street
Hoboken, New Jersey

Subject: Dockets No. DMEA-2544 - 2545
Block Talc
Cherokee County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ferry:

Please be advised that this office has recently received field examination reports from Mr. Robert A. Laurence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, with respect to the exploration applications referred to above.

Normally, applications are processed and passed upon very shortly after receipt of such field examination reports. However, in the case of these two applications, we have decided to suspend action on them until we have a better understanding of the block steatite possibilities in the Murphy Marble Belt. We hope that the present drilling by the Hitchcock Corporation on the same belt, some six to eight miles farther east, will shed some light on the subject.

The wisdom of drilling for block talc, when there is so little evidence of the presence of block talc, has become very debatable. This office will therefore, defer the processing of both DMEA-2544 and DMEA-2545 for probably ninety days. Thereafter, you will be informed of our later decitions on both applications.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK. E. JOHNSON (sgd) 7/17/52

Acting Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

JTRobertson:mp 7/14/52
cc: Docket File
Adm. Reading File
Mr. Ruhlman, B071A
Mr. Norton, G-232, GSA Bldg.
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Houk

Mr. Joseph R. Ferry
Vice-President
American Talc Company
77 River Street
Hoboken, New Jersey

Subject: Dockets No. DMEA-2544 - 2545
Block Talc
Cherokee County, North Carolina

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Sincerely yours,

FRANK. E. JOHNSON (sgd) 7/17/52

Acting Administrator
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

JERobertson:mp 7/14/52
cc: Docket File
Adm. Reading File
Mr. Ruhlman, B071A
Mr. Norton, G-232, GSA Bldg.
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Houk

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

Subject: Dockets No. DMEA-2544 - 2545
Steatite Talc
Cherokee County, North Carolina
(American Talc Company)

Dear Mr. Laurence:

The exploration applications referred to above are to be reviewed, and an examination made of the two properties by the Field Team. Memoranda from the Geological Survey, and the Bureau of Mines, are enclosed for your information.

The present drilling operation in your Region by the Hitchcock Corporation (DMA-1198X) is somewhat similar to the proposed drilling by the American Talc Company and their monthly operating reports may be helpful to the Field Teams in making the estimates of drilling costs for these two projects.

The properties to be examined are close together and may be examined and reported on at the same time.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) FRANK E. JOHNSON

Chairman, Operating Committee
Defense Minerals Exploration
Administration

Enclosures - 3
Approved:

W. H. Hodges

Member, Bureau of Mines

S. M. Lemmon

Member, Geological Survey

JTRobertson:mp 6/6/52
cc: Docket File
Operating Committee (2)
Adm. Reading File
Mr. Ruhlman, 3071A
Mr. Norton, G-232, GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

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

RECEIVED
JUN 12 1952
U. S. Geological Survey
Geologic Division
Knoxville, Tenn.

June 5, 1952

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: E. Robert Ruhlman, Commodity Specialist
Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-2544-45, Block steatite talc, American Talc Company.

This area is known to have a good grade of talc and indications are favorable as to finding block steatite talc.

A field team investigation is recommended to determine the feasibility of an exploration program.

E. Robert Ruhlman

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-MD-JJN

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

May 23, 1952

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-2544 (Block talc)

To: L. G. Houk, Non-Metallic Minerals Division, DMEA
From: J. J. Norton, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: American Talc Company.
Name of property: (1) Barton (2) Moore (3) Cornwall.
Location of property: Cherokee County, North Carolina.
Estimated cost of project: $16,000.
Summary of applicant's proposal:
20 diamond drill holes 250 to 300 feet deep.
Sources of information on applicant's property:
We have no data to add to what has been submitted by applicant.
Comments:
1. Field examination and a conference between field team and applicant will be necessary.
2. If the properties show promise, a project similar to DMEA-1198 would be warranted.
3. Field team's experience with Project DMEA-1198, a few miles southwest of the American Talc properties, should have a bearing on what to do with this application.
4. Caution should be exercised to avoid doing more exploration than is warranted in this area.
5. Applicant's cost estimates seem low.

RECOMMENDATION:
Refer to field team.

J. J. Norton

Norton:jeh
G-5/23/52
cc: Director's Reading file 4212
Branch Reading file 4212
DMEA files
Norton G-230

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-MD-JJN

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

May 26, 1952

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-2545 (Block talc)

To: L. G. Houk, Non-Metallic Minerals Division, DMEA
From: J. J. Norton, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: American Talc Company.
Name of property: Regal.
Location of property: Cherokee County, North Carolina.
Estimated cost of project: $40,000.
Summary of applicant's proposal:
12,000 feet of diamond drilling.

Comments:

1. This application should be processed with DMEA-2544, which is for nearby properties.

2. This new application adds emphasis to a statement in my May 23rd memorandum concerning DMEA-2544, when I said that discretion should be exercised to avoid doing more work in this area than is warranted. Excessive expenditures of money exploring this area for block talc should be avoided, and I suggest that you give consideration to the question of when the limit is reached.

3. Your oral statement that the applicant has drill hole data, which have not been sent to you, indicates that complete consideration of this project is not possible at the present time. These data should be provided before a field examination is warranted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Two courses of action seem possible for these two applications, DMEA-2544 and 2545:

1. Denial on the grounds that the limit of justifiable DMEA expenditures in this district has already been reached.

Or

2. Refer to field team.

J. J. Norton

Norton:jeh
G-5/26/52
cc: Director's Reading file 4212
Branch " " "
DMEA files
Norton G-230

2545

ALSIMAG

AMERICAN LAVA CORPORATION

CERAMICS FOR ELECTRICAL AND OTHER TECHNICAL USES · STEATITE TITANIA ALUMINA

CHATTANOOGA 5, TENNESSEE

March , 1951

Mr. M. Woodson Glenn,
Southern Pipe Company,
P. O. Box ,
Chatsworth, Georgia.

Dear Mr. Glenn:

Thanks for a sample of tile [illegible] from the old Hewitt Mine, Nentahala, N. C. [illegible] to one of our old timers in the soapstone [illegible] he immediately replied ... "This is not the quality which [illegible] to get. The color is O.K., but we used to get a more [illegible] which did not crack in firing. This sample will split.

I fired the sample through our kiln, and I am returning you the fired piece just to show you that he was right. But let's not give up.

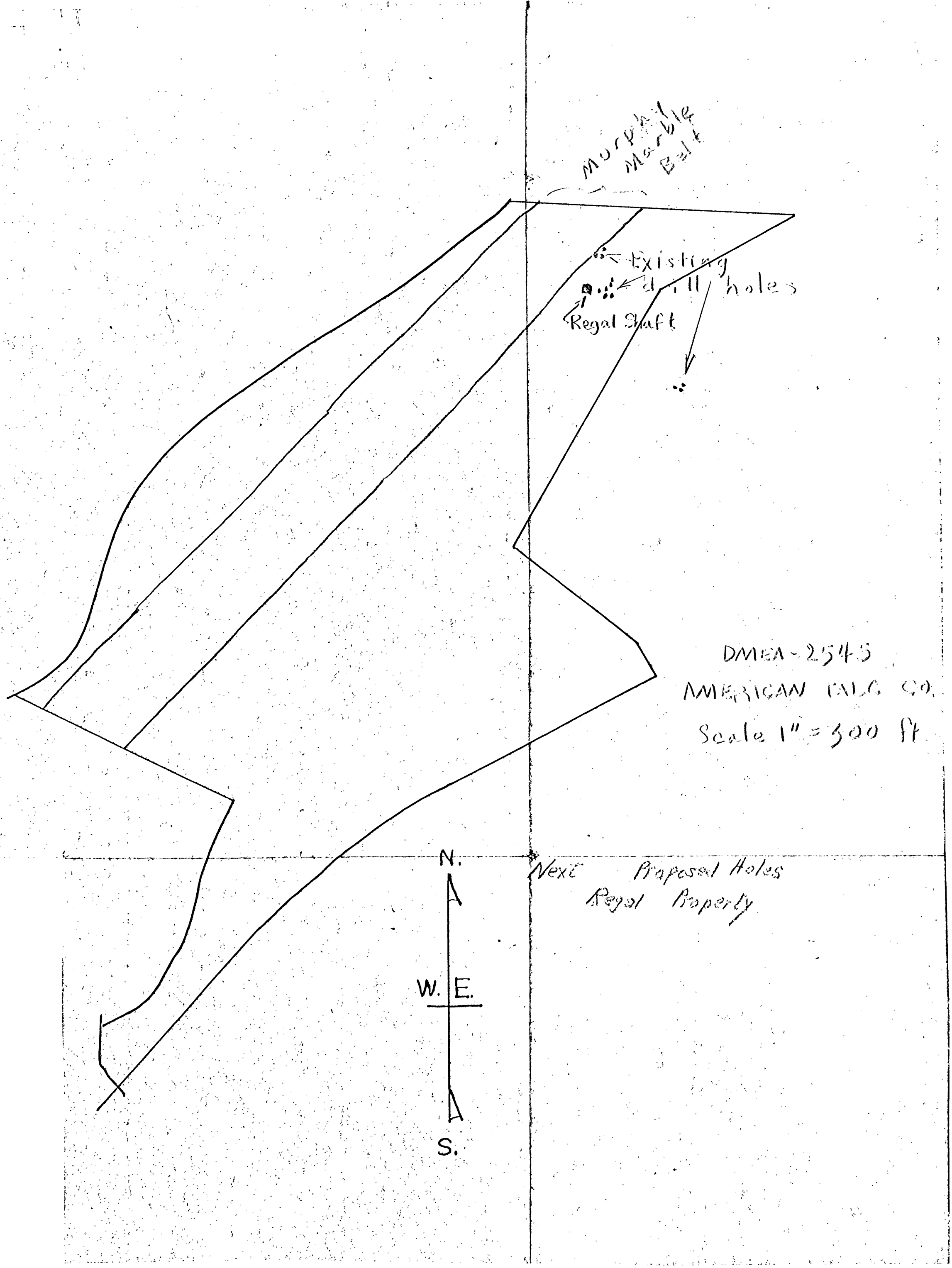
Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

AMERICAN LAVA CORPORATION

Hans Thurnauer
Vice Pres. - Dir. of Research

HT/gm
enc.


Murphy Marble Belt
Existing drill holes
Regal Shaft
DMEA-2543
AMERICAN PALC CO.
Scale 1" = 300 ft
N.
W.
E.
S.
Next Proposed Holes
Regal Property