MAR 2 8 1955

Mr. Guy McCurry

Mineville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3306 - Mine
Guy McCurry
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Reference is made to your application for exploration assistance.

On October 28, 1954, and again on December 27, 1954, we wrote you requesting that you advise us of your intentions to supplying the performance-surety bond.

On February 14, 1955, we advised you that if the needed data have not been received by March 18, 1955, we would then consider the matter closed.

To date we have not had answers to above-referenced letters and we assume that you no longer desire to proceed with the application. Accordingly we are removing the application from the active file and considering the matter closed.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

LOKouk:gad 3/25/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Hillsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kouk

March 23, 1955

Memorandum

To: Chief, Operations Control and Statistics Division

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Withdrawal of application - Docket No. DMEA-3306 - Mica
Guy McCurry
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

The subject docket is being returned herewith and may be withdrawn from the pending category and placed in the withdrawn.

We are assuming the applicant no longer desires to process the application since by letter of February 14, 1955, we stated that if requested additional data needed to process the application were not received by March 18, 1955, we would then consider the docket closed. Up to this date we have received no reply to our letter.

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 3/23/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk

FEB 14 1955

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. [illegible]-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

On December 27, 1954, we wrote you in regard to your application for assistance in exploring the Chestnut Branch Mine. To date we have not had an answer to our letter and we assume that you no longer desire to proceed with the application.

We wish to cooperate with you in the matter of allowing ample time but if the needed data have not been received by March 15, 1955, we will then remove the application from the active file and consider the matter closed.

Sincerely yours,

Frank [illegible]

ACTING Administrator

WGinderman:ad 2/10/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Killegnard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Hook

600

DEC 27 1954

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMA-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Reference is made to our letter of October 28, 1954, requesting that you furnish a performance-surety bond in the amount of $4,053.00 in connection with your application for exploration assistance at the subject property.

Please note from our letter that it is necessary that you furnish this bond inasmuch as you were unable to get the land owner to sign an Owner's Consent to Lien. For your information and guidance, we are enclosing one form each of a contract and a performance bond. It will be appreciated if you will advise as soon as possible regarding your intentions. If you can give us assurance that a performance bond will be furnished, we will be glad to resume processing your application immediately, or if not, we will then remove this application from the active file and consider the matter closed.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

wCAnderson:ad 12/27/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A withdrawal of application for exploration assistance and summary report.

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. Docket No. DMER-3306-mica.

Property: Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Applicant: Guy McCurry
Micaville, North Carolina

Application: Form MF-103 (April, 1952) received April 12, 1954.

Work proposed: 30 foot shaft and 150 feet of drift.

Amount requested: $9,310.00

Field Team Examination Report received June 1, 1954

Work proposed: Rehabilitate existing shaft, construct toolhouse, powder & explosives magazine, sink 50 feet of winze and drive 75 feet of drift.

Total cost of project proposed by field team - $5,505.50

2. Comments: The Applicant is a lessee and did not furnish an Owner's Consent to Lease with the application. He had been furnished forms and requested to have them executed before the time of field team examination. When it was established that the Owner would not sign the Owner's Consent to Lease, the Applicant was advised it would be necessary for him to furnish a performance bond. The final letter was written on February 14, 1955, informing the Applicant that unless the request was complied with by March 18, 1955, we would then remove the application from the active file and inactivate the matter. Since we have not yet had a reply to the last letter, we are withdrawing the application.

OCT 28 1954

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMRA-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

We have received your financial statement in connection with your application for exploration assistance at the subject property and an adequate legal description of the property.

Since you were unable to get the land owner to sign an Owner's Consent to Lien it will be necessary that you furnish a performance-surety bond in the amount of $4,053.00. This bond will guarantee the Government payment of its royalty on any production during the life of the contract and for ten years from the date of the contract if a certification of discovery is made.

In the interest of expediting your application it would be appreciated if you will promptly comply with our request.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:mg 10/27/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Newcomb, 5227
Mr. Houk

September 14, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee - D M E A - Washington

From: Field Team, D M E A - Region VII - Knoxville, Tenn.

Subject: DMEA-3306, Guy McCurry (mica) Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, N.C.

Enclosed are six copies of the legal description of the property involved in the subject application, and six copies of a map made for Mr. McCurry by D. M. Sheles of Burnsville, N. C.

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

Wm. A. Book for V. J. Lynch
U. S. Bureau of Mines

RAL/wm

OCT 28 1954

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mica
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

We have received your financial statement in connection with your application for exploration assistance at the subject property and an adequate legal description of the property.

Since you were unable to get the land owner to sign an Owner's Consent to Lien it will be necessary that you furnish a performance-surety bond in the amount of $4,053.00. This bond will guarantee the Government payment of its royalty on any production during the life of the contract and for ten years from the date of the contract if a certification of discovery is made.

In the interest of expediting your application it would be appreciated if you will promptly comply with our request.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:mg 10/27/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Newcomb, 5227
Mr. Houk

September 14, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee - D M E A - Washington

From: Field Team, D M E A - Region VII - Knoxville, Tenn.

Subject: DMEA-3306, Guy McCurry (mica) Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, N.C.

Enclosed are six copies of the legal description of the property involved in the subject application, and six copies of a map made for Mr. McCurry by D. M. Sheles of Burnsville, N. C.

Robert A. Lawrence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

Wm. A. Beck for V. J. Lynch
U. S. Bureau of Mines

RAL/wm

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF CHESTNUT BRANCH MINE PROPERTY, Yancey County, N. C.

BEGINNING on a stake in the center of Chestnut Branch in the line of Malone Randolp and Cornelia Anglin, C. A. Robertson and Garrett Robertson, said stake bears S52-00 W, 152 ft. from the mouth of Chestnut Branch, where it flows into Poe River, said junction of the streams being the common corner of Malone Randolp, Cornelia Anglin, C. A. Robertson and Garrett Robertson; and runs thence from said beginning stake up and with the center of Chestnut Branch as it meanders and with the line of Malone Randolp:
S 86-30 W, 83 ft. to a stake; S 54-30 W, 71 to a stake; S 71-20W, 63 to a stake; S. 64 - 30 W, 150 ft to a stake; S 49-30 W, 187 ft. to a stake; S 54-00W, 103 ft. to a stake in Chestnut Branch; thence S. 30-00E, 300 ft. leaving Chestnut Branch and running through the property of, and with the line of Anglin & Robertsons to a stake on the side of a hill; thence N. 00-30 E, 650 ft, through the property of , and with the line of Anglin & Robertsons to a stake on the side of the hill; thence N-30-00W, 300 ft. through the property of and with Anglin & Robertsons line to the point of BEGINNING; and containing 4.9 acres.

August 30, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Executive Officer, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: DMEA- 3306, Chestnut Branch Mine (mica) Guy McCurry, Micaville, N. C.

Mr. McCurry has been unable to get the land owner to sign an Owner's Consent to Lien, and therefore proposes to guarantee royalty payments. He has asked that the attached financial statement be sent to you for consideration. We have no additional information concerning Mr. McCurry's credit status.

Mr. McCurry has arranged with a surveyor to run the boundaries of the property and will submit an adequate description as soon as it is available.

Robert A. Laurence

R/L/zm

cc:
Lynch
Beck
Files

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

On June 16, 1954, we wrote you with regard to your application in exploring the Chestnut Branch Mine. To date we have not had an answer to our letter, and we assume that you no longer desire to proceed with the application.

We wish to cooperate with you in the matter of allowing ample time, but if the needed data have not been received by September 30, 1954, we will then remove the application from the active file and consider the matter closed.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 8/23/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Newcomb, 5227
Mr. Houk

JUL 2 0 1954

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. 1944-3356 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Reference is made to your application for exploration assistance at the subject mine.

On June 16, 1954, we wrote you a letter stating that before we can continue the processing of your application we must have a better description of the property than is contained in the lease and the Owner's Consent to Mine, signed by the owners. The Field Team has sent you the forms for signatures. To date we have not received this information.

In the interest of expediting the Defense Minerals Exploration Program, it will be appreciated if you will provide us promptly with the requested information.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:ng 7/16/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, 5216
Mr. Houk

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

June 15, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Acting Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3306 (mica)

Applicant: Guy McCurry

Name and Location of Property: Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: May 27, 1954

Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: June 3, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Approval of a 2-stage exploration contract in the amount of $5,515.

Comments:

1. The size of the excavation and the record of past production, extending from 1880 to the present, indicates the existence of a mica-bearing pegmatite of considerable size.

2. There is no evidence to indicate that the pegmatite has been worked out.

3. The mica contained in the pegmatite is ruby of excellent quality, although the books are relatively small.

Recommendation:

On the basis that the mica is of strategic quality and that the pegmatite may extend beyond the present stope boundaries, I concur in the field team's recommendation for an exploration project in the amount of $5,515 in two stages.

Donald R. Irving

600

JUN 16 1954

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Reference is made to your application for exploration assistance at the subject mine.

Before we can continue with the processing of your application we must have the following:

1. A better description of the property. The metes and bounds description of the property as written in the lease does not describe a closed traverse. Please forward a legal description that gives the bounding bearings and distances, and the total acreage. A property map, if available, showing relationship of mine to boundary lines would be helpful.

2. We do not have the Owner's Consent to Lien. We understand the Field Office has sent you forms for signatures.

Your application will receive prompt attention upon receipt of above data.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Lawrence G. Houk, Chief
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 6/14/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-MD-CNM

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

Defense Minerals
RECEIVED
JUN 4 1954

June 2, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3306 (mica)

To: L. G. Hook, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant: Guy McCurry, Micaville, N. C.
Name of property: Chestnut Branch Mine.
Location of property: Yancey County, N. C.
Date of Field Team Report: May 25, 1954.
Authorship of Field Team Report: K. H. Teague, D. H. Ames, and L. E. Shirley.
Field Team's recommendation:

Stage 1. Dewater and rehabilitate old works

Stage 2. Buildings, and 50' incline. 75' drifts.

Total: $5,515

Comments: Applicant to furnish corners and bounds for lease purposes. Considerable strategic mica is present.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:
Follow Field Team's recommendation.

D. M. Larrabee

Larrabee:jch
6/2/54
cc: Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
DMEA 3 ✓
Larrabee G-230

May 27, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: Field Examination Report, DMEA-3106 (mica)
Chestnut Branch Mine, Yancey County, N. C. Guy McCurry, Applt.

Enclosed are 4 copies of the subject examination report, and six extra copies of the map. The Field Team agrees with the recommendations in this report, and we suggest approval of a 2-stage contract, on a unit-cost basis, to include the following:

Stage I.	Dewatering and rehabilitation of old works, including installation of temporary ladders	$ 315.00
Stage II.	Tool House	150.00
	Powder Magazine	50.00
	Exploder Magazine	25.00
	Inclines, 50 ft. @ $47/ft.	2,350.00
	Drift and/or crosscut, 75 ft. @ $35/ft.	2,625.00
	Total....	$ 5,515.00

Please refer to your letter of May 3, requesting the bounding lines of the leased area. We have no copy of the lease and therefore, can only show the approximate location of the lease boundary, as shown on the sketch map. However, it is our opinion that such information, if needed, should be provided by the applicant, for two reasons: (1) if corners and bounds are to be shown on a map which becomes a part of the contract, their authenticity should be the responsibility of the applicant, not the Field Team, and (2) our Field Examiners do not have time to make such surveys in connection with their normal examination work.

The lease boundary, as shown, provides adequate area for the project and for reasonable projection beyond the proposed exploratory workings.

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
6-4-54
(date)

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

Wm. A. Beck, for V. J. Lynch
U. S. Bureau of Mines

RAL/km

10 Hours
$9.50
7.7 + 1.92
Paid

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3306, CHESTNUT BRANCH MINE
Mica- Yancey County, N. C.

By

Kefton H. Teague and Dewey H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

Lawrence E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

May 25, 1954

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
6-4-54
(date)

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
ON
DMEA-3306, CHESTNUT BRANCH MINE (mica)

Applicant: Guy McCurry, Micaville, North Carolina

A pegmatite containing considerable strategic mica is present in this mine. The Field Examiners are of the opinion that the deposit merits exploratory work and recommend that assistance be granted - the project to be staged.

The Chestnut Branch Mine is located on Chestnut Branch 4.1 airline miles N. 16° E. of Micaville, Yancey County, North Carolina.

The property was examined on May 21, 1954. Messrs. Guy McCurry and Tom Edge accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

Access is via about one-half mile of jeep road. The applicant appears competent to conduct the proposed work. Area covered by the lease is adequate.

No surface facilities are present on the property. The only existing workings is an open stope which trends N. 55° E. It is about 250 feet long, 3 to 8 feet wide, and an estimated 30 to 50 feet deep. The stope at the time of the examination was partially filled with water. An undeterminable amount of muck is probably in the bottom of the stope but appears to be minor in amount.

An unpublished U. S. G. S. report describes the pegmatite as follows:

" A pegmatite body, which is a few inches to 6 feet thick, is a sill in interlayered hornblende gneiss and mica gneiss. The country rock foliation strikes N. 45° E., and dips 55° SE. Tourmaline is present in a 4-foot zone of gneiss along the footwall contact. Plagioclase, the dominant pegmatite mineral, is accompanied by quartz, microcline, muscovite, garnet, and apatite. The mica is ruby of excellent quality, but is relatively small, with most of the books less than 4 inches in diameter. About 5 percent of the sheet material is lightly stained."

The mine was worked intermittently from 1880 to 1939 yielding a total value of mica in excess of $60,000 according to the above quoted report. Minor work done recently on the northeast end of the stope has resulted in sales of about $1,100 worth of mica under the present Government purchasing program.

Experienced manpower, equipment and supplies are avialable locally. No electricity is available near the mine.

The applicant's proposal with slight modifications, to which he is agreeable, is sound and is the most economical method of exploration. The Field Examiners recommend that the work be staged. Stage I, to consist of dewatering, removal of muck from critical places in the bottom of the stope, and installation of temporary ladders. This, the Field Examiners believe is necessary to see the character of the pegmatite in the bottom of the stope and to locate the most advantageous place to conduct possible future exploratory work. If the pegmatite, in the bottom of the stope, looks favorable, then Stage II should consist of sinking a 50-foot incline on pegmatite and driving of 75 feet of drift from the bottom of the incline.

An unit-cost estimate of the proposed work is as follows:

Stage I.	Dewatering, removal of muck, and installation of temporary ladders.		
	Dewatering: (30 hours)		
	Pump rental @ $20/Mo.	$ 3.00	
	Compressor rental @ $1/hr.	30.00	
	1 - Laborer @ $1/hr.	30.00	
	Gas & Oil	10.00	
	Removal muck: (30 hours)		
	Hoist rental @ $50/Mo.	7.00	
	1 - Hoist Operator @ $1.25/hr.	37.50	
	2- Laborers @ $1/hr.	60.00	
	Gas & Oil	15.00	
	Miscellaneous	100.00	
	Install temporary ladders (4 hours)		
	Lumber	5.00	
	2 - Laborers @ $1/hr.	8.00	
	Tools & Nails	10.00	
	Total Stage I.....		$315.50
Stage II.			
	Tool House (16 hours)		
	Lumber, 1M @ $70/M	70.00	
	Labor		
	1 - carpenter @ $1.75/hr.	28.00	
	1 - helper @ $1/hr.	16.00	
	Nails, roofing, hardware, etc.	36.00	150.00
	Powder magazine		50.00
	Exploder magazine		25.00
	Sink 50 ft. 5' x 7' incline w/ladders (25 shifts)		
	Equipment:		
	Compressor, pump and hammer rental @ $240/Mo.	300.00	

Hoist rental @ $50/Mo.	$ 65.00	
Labor:		
3- Laborers @ $1/hr.	600.00	
1- Hoistman- @ $1.25/hr.	250.00	
1- Driller- foreman @ $1.25/hr	250.00	
Supplies:		
Explosives	200.00	
Gas & Oil	250.00	
Drill Steel	75.00	
Small tools & supplies	60.00	
Miscellaneous:		
Insurance, Soc. Sec., repairs, etc.	230.00	
Contingencies	60.00	$2,340.00
Drive 75 feet of 5' x7' drift (30 shifts)		
Equipment:		
Compressor, pump and hammer rental @ $240/Mo.	360.00	
Hoist rental @ $50/Mo.	75.00	
Labor:		
3- Laborers @ $1/hr.	720.00	
1-Hoistman @ $1.25/hr.	300.00	
1-Driller-foreman @ $1.25/hr.	300.00	
Supplies:		
Explosives	200.00	
Gas & Oil	200.00	
Drill Steel	100.00	
Small tools & Supplies	50.00	
Miscellaneous:		
Insurance, Soc. Sec.,repairs,etc.	250.00	
Contingencies:	70.00	$2,625.00
Total Stage II.....		$5,180.00
Total Stages I and II.....		$5,505.50

MAY 3 -

Mr. Guy McCurry

Micaville, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMMA-3306 - Mica
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Your application for assistance in exploring the subject property has been reviewed by the Nonmetallic Minerals Division of the Defense Minerals Exploration Administration and has been referred to Mr. Robert A. Larrabee, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville 2, Tennessee, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

Please advise this office in writing if you desire to have your application processed under the new Government participation rate which is 75 percent of the approved cost.

The Regional Office will contact you at an early date if an examination is to be made. Any assistance that you may give the members of the field team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

G. O. Mittenderf

Administrator

LSHouk:ing 4/29/54

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, 8-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

MAY 3 - 1954

Mr. Robert A. Lawrence
Executive Officer, AEC
Field Team, Region VII
Room 13, Post Office Bldg.
Knoxville 2, Tennessee

Subject: Docket No. [illegible]-3306 - Mine
Guy McCurry
Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Please review the subject application and arrange for a field examination if you deem it necessary.

Please show the bounding lines of the leased area and their relation to the work, if a contract is recommended.

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey, dated April 13, 1954, and from the Bureau of Mines, dated April 21, 1954, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

W. S. Martin

ACTING Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

D. M. Larrabee

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

LGHouk:ag 4/29/54

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket File
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Larrabee, G-232 GSA Bldg.
Mr. Houk

Notes on DMEA-3306

1. No OCL
2. Meles and bounds description in lease is inadequate
3. No map
4. Location in relation to Micaville inadequate
5. Does applicant realize the Gov't share is 75%.

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

April 21, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3306

Applicant: Guy McCurry

Name and Location of Property: Chestnut Branch Mine
Yancey County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fert. Mats. Br.: April 13, 1954

Comments:

1. A total of 38 pieces of mica from subject mine (Geological Survey Professional Paper 225, p. 59) were tested and found to be 100 percent E-1 capacitor quality. Color was classed as cinnamon brown.

2. A total of 1,388 pounds of clear sheet and 7,703 pounds of punch were produced from this mine during 1925-26, 1933-34, and 1937.

3. Estimated cost - $9,310.

4. Proposed exploration is by 30-foot shaft and 150-foot drift.

Recommendation:

It is suggested the field team examine this property to ascertain if an exploration program is justified. If so, the applicant and field team should agree on a definite plan with expenditures on a unit-cost basis.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

G-MD-CNM

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

April 13, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3306 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: D. M. Larrabee, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Guy McCurry, Micaville, N. C.
Name of property: Chestnut Branch Mine.
Location of property: In "White Town", 2 miles from Micaville, N.C.
Summary of applicant's proposal:

1. Sink 30' to get below old workings.
2. Drift 150' to pick up pegmatite.

$9,310

Sources of information on applicant's property:

Colonial records indicate Harold E. Robinson sold 5,562.93 lbs. ruby mica for $3,089.50. Of this, 5,160 lbs. was punch, 374.94 was large 3/4, chiefly #2 and #2 inf.

No other records.

Comments:

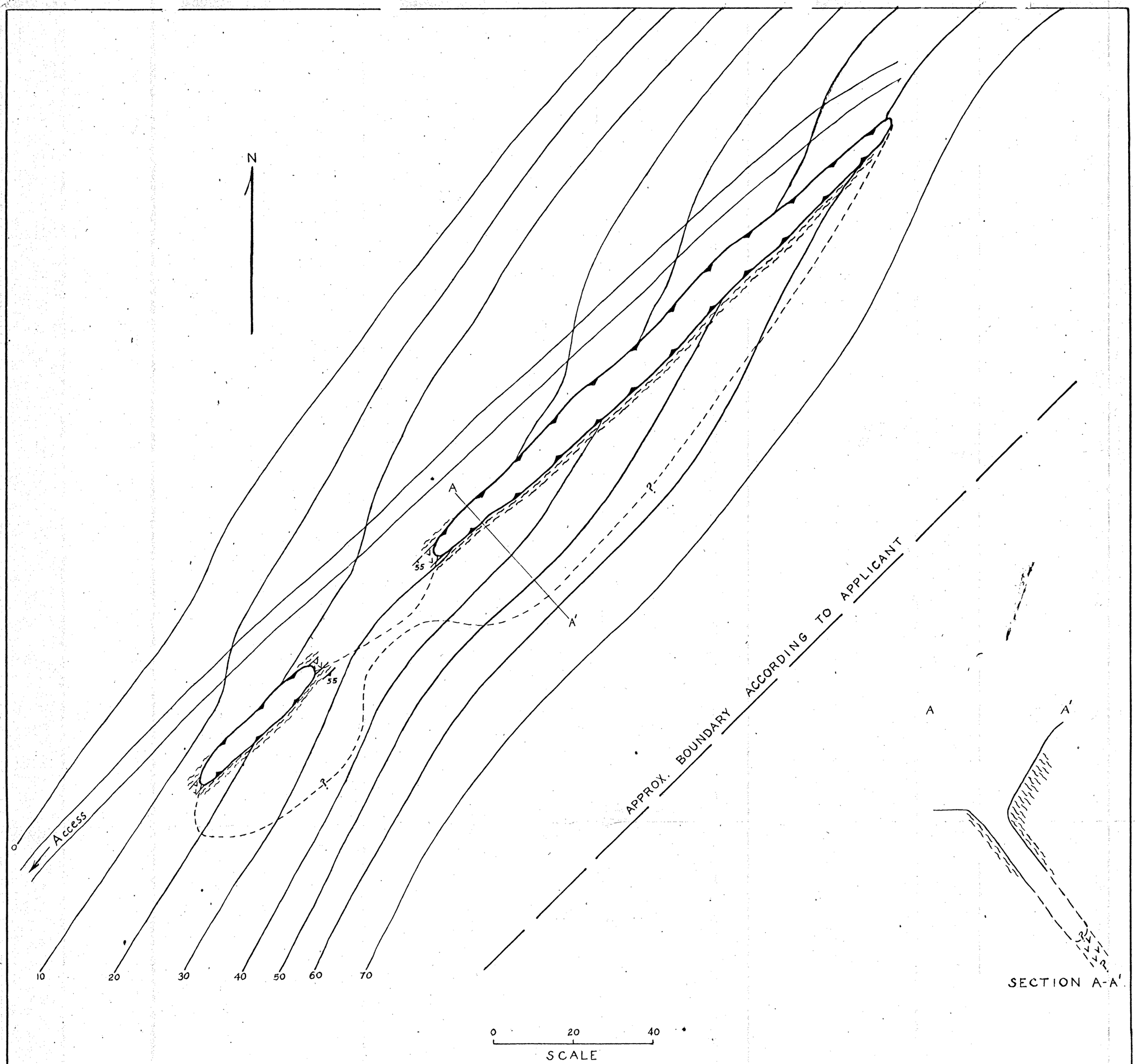
1. Proposal looks unsound.
2. No paper plan of attack, showing workings, peg., etc.
3. No usable location given. (2 miles in what direction from Micaville?)
4. Does the applicant realize the Government share is 75%? Most recent North Carolina applicants do not appear to.
5. What do old dumps indicate as to amount of old workings?
6. Costs look high.

RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to Field Team for examination if desirable.

D. M. Larrabee

Larrabee:jeh
4/13/54
cc: DMEA 3 ✓
Director's reading 4212
Branch reading 4212
Larrabee G-230



SKETCH OF
CHESTNUT BRANCH MINE
YANCEY CO., N.C.

DMEA-3306 (mica)