600

FEB 28 1955

Mr. Bruce P. Ollis

Ingalls, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMSA-3453 - Mica
Bruce P. Ollis
Potent Mine
Avery County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ollis:

Reference is made to our letter of October 1, 1954, denying and our letter of December 8, 1954, reaffirming the denial of your application for exploration assistance at the subject mine.

These letters were written after a careful study of the factual data available at this office. The DMSA Field Team re-examination of the Potent Mine on February 2, 1955, and subsequent review of all the information indicates that the probability of making a significant discovery is not sufficiently encouraging to justify Government participation.

We regret to advise you, that under these circumstances, your application for exploration assistance at the Potent Mine is denied.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson: ad 2/21/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 1 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

February 10, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington, D. C.

From: Field Team, D. M. E.A. Region V, Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: DMEA-3453 (mica) Bruce P. Ollis, Ingalls, N. C.
Poteat Mine, Avery County, N. C.

After an exchange of correspondence between Mr. Laurence and Mr. Ollis, regarding re-examination of the subject mine, Teague and Amos re-inspected the deposit on February 2, 1955.

Since the original examination in September 1954, the applicant has done considerable bulldozing on the property and sunk a 12-foot test pit in the floor of and at the end of a cut on the northeast corner of the property. The pit was flooded to the collar; however, Mr. Ollis reported that it was sunk entirely in "slate" (mica-schist). He has some vague idea that he will encounter a mica-bearing pegmatite when he cuts through the mica schist. There is no geologic basis for this opinion.

At the southwest corner of the worked area, Mr. Ollis has cut a trench about 100 feet long and obtained about $60 worth of mica. This mica is associated with a quartz lens.

The summary of conditions as given in the original examination report still applies. Apparently a few scattered mica rich areas have been accidentally located in the thick, perthite-rich alaskite; however, the possibility for the discovery of a worthwhile mica deposit is very poor. Additional work is not warranted.

The denial should be reaffirmed.

V. J. Lynch, Acting

KHT/sm
cc:
Lynch
Shirley
Files

D. H. Amos, Geologist
U. S. Geological Survey

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM POST OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

RECEIVED

December 13, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Executive Officer, DMEA - Region VII

Subject: DMEA-3453 (mica) Bruce E. Ollis, Ingalls, N. C. Poteat Mine
Avery County, N. C.

The letter to Mr. Ollis sent with your letter of December 8, is satisfactory to us and the original has been mailed to him.

Robert A. Laurence

RAL/sm
cc:
Beck
Lynch
Files

DEC - 8 1954

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3453 - Mica
Bruce F. Ellis
Poteat Mine
Avery County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

Reference is made to the subject application which was denied October 1, 1954.

We are enclosing a copy of a letter from the applicant requesting reconsideration of the denial. We have reaffirmed the denial on the basis that the mica is of non-strategic quality. If you are in agreement with this action please forward the enclosed letter to the applicant. If you are not in agreement please return all copies to this office.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge

Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges

Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 2

LGHouk:gad 12/8/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

600

DEC - 8 1954

Mr. Bruce P. Ollis

Bugalla, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3453 - Mica
Bruce P. Ollis
Poteat Mine
Avery County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ollis:

Reference is made to your letter of November 9, 1954, requesting reconsideration of the subject application which was denied October 1, 1954.

It is noted from your letter that the subject Poteat Mine under consideration for exploration assistance, and examined by the Field Team on September 8, 1954, is also known as the Brushy Creek Mine. The proposed project does not meet the criteria necessary to qualify for exploration assistance inasmuch as the mica is not of strategic quality, therefore, the denial of your application is reaffirmed.

However, if you still believe that your property can produce a significant amount of strategic mica, we suggest that you do some additional work and expose new areas. On completion of this work, if you will advise us as to what new work has been done, we will be very pleased to arrange for another examination of your property.

Sincerely yours,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

LGHouk:gad 12/8/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region VII
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C. 600

Mr. Bruce P. Ollis

Ingalls, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3453 - Mica
Bruce P. Ollis
Poteat Mine
Avery County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ollis:

Reference is made to your letter of November 9, 1954, requesting reconsideration of the subject application which was denied October 1, 1954.

It is noted from your letter that the subject Poteat Mine under consideration for exploration assistance, and examined by the Field Team on September 8, 1954, is also known as the Brushy Creek Mine. ~~Denial of your application was based on the Field Team Examination Report and other information which indicates the improbability of disclosing significant reserves of strategic mica.~~ The proposed project does not meet the criteria necessary to qualify for exploration assistance inasmuch as the mica is not of strategic quality, therefore, the denial of your application is reaffirmed.

However, if you still believe that your property can produce a significant amount of strategic mica, we suggest that you do some additional work and expose new areas. On completion of this work, if you will advise us as to what new work has been done, we will be very pleased to arrange for another examination of your property.

Sincerely yours,

Administrator

Write to him and include for funding if you approve.

600

OCT 1 1954

Mr. Bruce P. Ollis

Ingalls, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3453 - Mica
Potent Mine
Avery County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Ollis:

Your application for aid for an exploration project and other reports available to us in Washington relating to the subject 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 all our information indicates to us that the probability of disclosing significant reserves of mica by your proposed program is not sufficiently promising to justify Government participation. We regret to advise you, under these circumstances, that your application for exploration assistance is denied.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Defense Minerals Program and for bringing your property to our attention.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Johnson

ACTING Administrator

LGHouk:gad 10/1/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Killagaard, 5227
Mr. Houk

October 1, 1954

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and summary report.

By: James Hopkins

1. Docket No. DMEA-3453 - Mica

Property: Poteat Mine
Avery County, North Carolina

Applicant: Bruce P. Ollis
Ingalls, North Carolina

Application: Form MF-103 received August 20, 1954

Work proposed:

Bulldoze area 200' x 400' 100 hrs. @ $18.00	$1,800.00
Labor 4 men @ $1.00/hr. 12 weeks	1,920.00
Building Road	500.00
Mining House	250.00
Magazine	200.00
For Contingencies	330.00
Amount requested	$5,000.00

No contract: Application denied.

2. Comments:

Geological premise: All mica is small and mostly scrap grade. Pegmatite too lean to be worthwhile for even a scrap operation.

Geological criteria:

1. Pegmatite is fine grained -- probably alaskite conformable to mica schist wall rock, weathered and unzoned.
2. No mica concentration exposed.
3. The mica is green in color, hard, curved, bent, cracked, badly ruled and "tied".

Future possibilities: None.

Recommendations: The Nonmetallic Minerals Division concurs in the field team's recommendation to deny the application. The Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines are in agreement.

JHopkins:gad 10/1/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk

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

Bureau of Mines
RECEIVED
SEP 29 1954

September 28, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Donald R. Irving, Acting for Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3453 (mica)

Applicant: B. P. Ollis

Name and Location of Property: Poteat Mine
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: September 17, 1954

Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: September 24, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Denial.

Comments:

1. The mica found at this mine was poor in quality and small in grade.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation for denial of this application on the basis that there is little possibility of obtaining strategic mica.

Signed

Donald R. Irving

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

SEP 28 1954

September 24, 1954

Re: DMEA-3453
Bruce P. Ollis
(Poteat Mine)
Avery Co., N. C.
$5,000 - Mica

Memorandum

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

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

Subject: Concurrence with Field Team denial

The field examiners recommend this application be denied.

Their reasons for a denial are valid and justified.

I concur with their report and recommend the Poteat mine be denied exploration assistance.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-9/24/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061

September 17, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, DMEA- Region VII - Knoxville, Tennessee

Subject: Field Examination Report, DMEA-3453 (mica) Bruce P. Ollis, Ingalls, N. C. Poteat Mine, Avery County, N. C.

Enclosed are four copies of the subject examination report. The property was examined without a field referral.

We agree with the examiners that this application should be denied.

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

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

RAL/sm
cc:
Beck
Lynch
Files

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
9/24/54
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3453 POTEAT MINE (mica)
Avery County, N. C.

BY

K. H. Teague and D. H. Amos, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey
and
L. E. Shirley, Mining Engineer
U. S. Bureau of Mines

September 16, 1954

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
9/24/54
(date)

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
ON
DMEA-3453, POTEAT MINE (mica)

Applicant: Bruce P. Ollis, Ingalls, North Carolina

Extensive slumped open cuts exist at this place, having been made in a large, fine grained, mica-lean pegmatite. There is little likelihood for the discovery of a worthwhile mica deposit. The examiners recommend that the application be denied.

The deposit was examined on September 8, 1954. Mr. Bruce P. Ollis accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The Poteat Mine is on the slope of Mill Ridge, south of Brushy Creek, 2.5 airline miles S. 45° E. of Ingalls, Avery County, North Carolina. Access is good at all times to within 1/4 mile of the mine. Only a foot trail extends from this point to the mine.

A more or less continuous open cut with an area of several acres has been made at this place by diverting a stream across the pegmatite. The area worked is about 500 feet long in an east-west direction and 200 feet wide in a north-south direction. Sides of all of the cuts are badly slumped. A few short "ground hog" adits have been driven in the sides of the cuts, none of which expose mica of strategic grade. Depth of the cut varies from 10 to 40 feet.

This opening has been made in a thick, gently dipping, fine-grained pegmatite, which apparently contains mostly scrap mica. It is approximately 50 feet thick, conformable to the mica schist wall rock, weathered, unzoned, trends N. 25° - 60° W. and dips 10° SW. No mica concentration is exposed.

This deposit could be described as either a coarse grained alaskite or a fine-grained pegmatite. It is composed of perthite, sodic plagioclase, quartz, and green mica.

All mica is small and mostly of scrap grade. The examiners believe the pegmatite is too lean in mica to be worthwhile for even a scrap operation. The mica is green in color, hard, curved, bent, cracked, badly ruled and "tied."

Possibilities for the discovery of a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica at this place are very poor. The examiners recommend that the application be denied.

Date: Sept. 8, 1954

K. H. Teague and D. H. Ames, Geologists
U. S. Geological Survey

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

August 23, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3453 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Bruce P. Ollis, Ingalls, North Carolina
Name of property: Poteat Mine
Location of property: 8 miles NE of Spruce Pine, North Carolina
Summary of applicant's proposal:
100 hrs. - bulldozing
Shaft sinking and drifting
TOTAL COST (EST.) - $5,000.
Sources of information on applicant's property:
We have no information on the Poteat mine, Avery Co., N. C. There is a Poteat mine in Mitchell Co., N. C., but from the description of the mine locations the two properties are 10 miles apart.
Comments: This property was developed during the last war and may warrant exploration assistance. In light of the fact that we have no pertinent information on the property, it seems best to refer the application to the Field Team.
RECOMMENDATION: Field referral for examination at their convenience.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-8/23/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

August 23, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3453 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Bruce F. Ollis, Ingalls, North Carolina
Name of property: Poteet Mine
Location of property: 8 miles NE of Spruce Pine, North Carolina
Summary of applicant's proposal:
100 hrs. - bulldozing
Shaft sinking and drifting.
TOTAL COST (EST.) - $5,000.
Sources of information on applicant's property:
We have no information on the Poteet mine, Avery Co., N. C. There is a Poteet mine in Mitchell Co., N. C., but from the description of the mine locations the two properties are 10 miles apart.
Comments: This property was developed during the last war and may warrant exploration assistance. In light of the fact that we have no pertinent information on the property, it seems best to refer the application to the Field Team.
RECOMMENDATION: Field referral for examination at their convenience.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-8/23/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

August 23, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF APPLICATION DMEA-3453 (mica)

To: L. G. Houk, Defense Minerals Exploration Administration
From: E. L. Newcomb, U. S. Geological Survey
Applicant's name and address: Bruce F. Ollis, Ingalls, North Carolina
Name of property: Poteat Mine
Location of property: 8 miles NE of Spruce Pine, North Carolina
Summary of applicant's proposal:
100 hrs. - bulldozing
Shaft sinking and drifting.
TOTAL COST (EST.) - $5,000.
Sources of information on applicant's property:
We have no information on the Poteat mine, Avery Co., N. C. There is a Poteat mine in Mitchell Co., N. C., but from the description of the mine locations the two properties are 10 miles apart.
Comments: This property was developed during the last war and may warrant exploration assistance. In light of the fact that we have no pertinent information on the property, it seems best to refer the application to the Field Team.
RECOMMENDATION: Field referral for examination at their convenience.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-8/23/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (3)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061

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

September 17, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Donald R. Irving, Acting for Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-~~3476~~ 3453 (mica)

Applicant: Bruce P. Ollis

Name and Location of Property: Potest Mine
Mitchell County

Comments:

1. No data available in this office on subject mine.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified. If so, the field team and applicant should agree on a definite plan of exploration on a unit-cost basis.

Donald R. Irving

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

September 17, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Donald R. Irving, Acting for Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-~~3475~~ 3453 (mica)

Applicant: Bruce F. Ollis

Name and Location of Property: Poteat Mine
Mitchell County

Comments:

1. No data available in this office on subject mine.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified. If so, the field team and applicant should agree on a definite plan of exploration on a unit-cost basis.

Donald R. Irving

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

September 17, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Donald R. Irving, Acting for Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-~~3476~~ 3453 (mica)

Applicant: Bruce P. Ollis

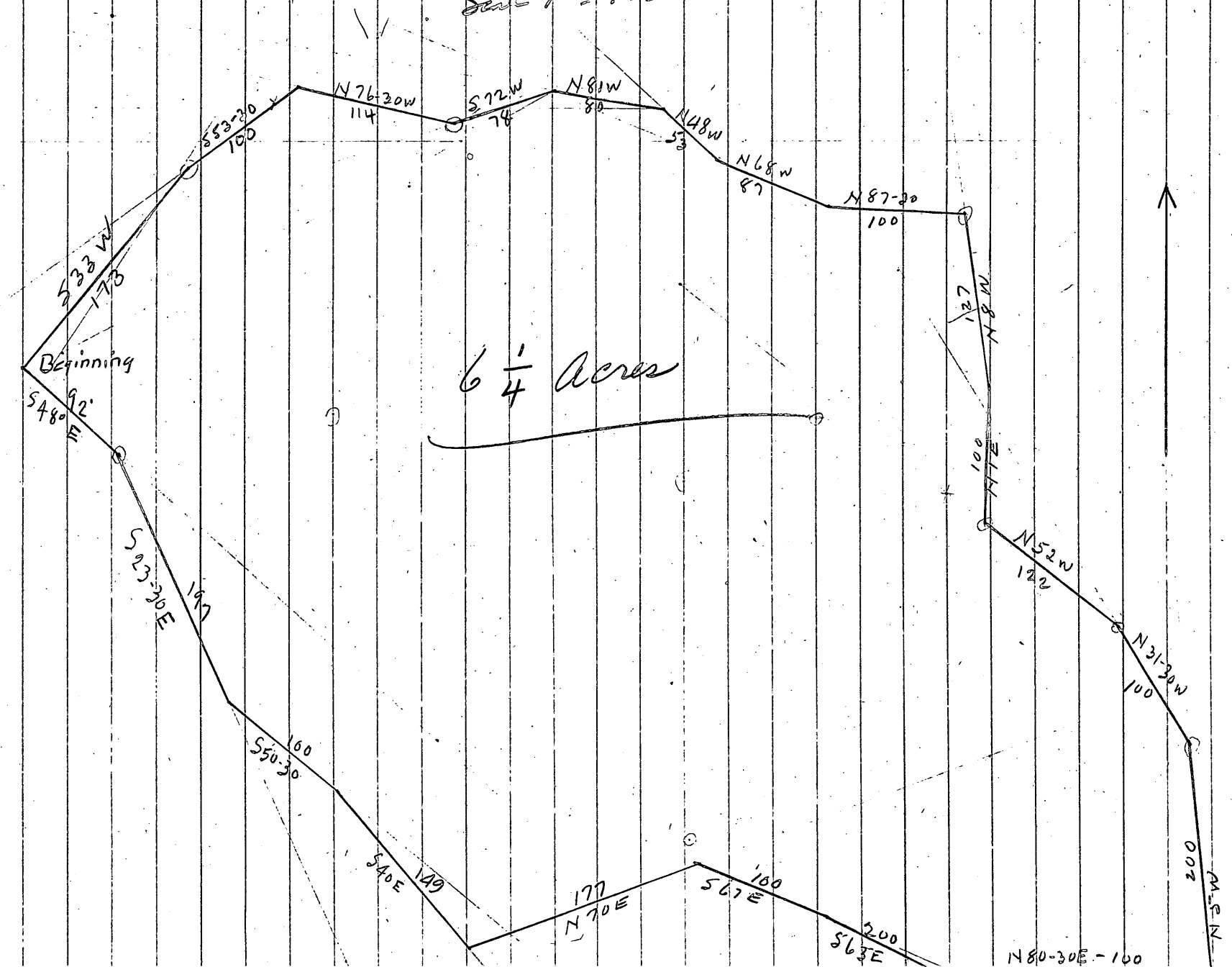
Name and Location of Property: Potest Mine
Mitchell County

Comments:

1. No data available in this office on subject mine.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the field team visit this mine when in that vicinity to ascertain if an exploration project is justified. If so, the field team and applicant should agree on a definite plan of exploration on a unit-cost basis.

Donald R. Irving

Omega 3453
Polcat mine
Scale 1" = 100'