600

DEC - 2 1954

Mr. John Phillips

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DML-3529 - Mica
Susie Phillips Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

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,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:ad 11/29/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Killegnard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

November 29, 1954

Memorandum

To: Administrator

From: Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: A denial of exploration assistance and summary report.

By: Walter C. Anderson

1. Docket No. DMEA-3529 - Mica
   Property: Susie Phillips Prospect
   Mitchell County, North Carolina

   Applicant: John Phillips
   Spruce Pine, North Carolina

   Application: Form-NF-103, date received October 13, 1954.
   Work proposed: Sink 90 feet of shaft and drive 100 feet of drift.
   Amount requested: $8,200.00.
   No contract: Application denied.

2. Comments:

   Geological premise: No indications that strategic grade mica will be found in the deposit.

   Geological criteria:
   1. Pegmatite - thickness not known.
   2. Mica - non-strategic grade, "A-type" and badly mineral-stained and mottled.
   3. Past mining - chiefly feldspar.

   Future possibilities: None for production of strategic grade mica.

   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.

WCAnderson:ad 11/29/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk

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

November 22, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3529 (mica)

Applicant: John Phillips

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

Date of Field Team Report: November 9, 1954

Date Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: November 16, 1954

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Denial.

Comments:

1. Mining has been done at this mine, mainly for feldspar, and mica obtained was of poor quality.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team's recommendation to deny this project on the basis that the mica is poor in quality and there is little likelihood of obtaining strategic mica.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOM 5 POST OFFICE BLDG.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

November 9, 1954

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

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

Subject: DMEA-3529, Susie Phillips Mine, Field Examination Report (mica)

Transmitted are four copies of the subject report.

The Field Team concurs with the field examiners that this application should be denied.

D. H. Amos, For R. A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION VII

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

ZM.

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
11/17/54
(date)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY THE FIELD TEAM, REGION VII

ON

DMEA-3529

DMEA# SUSIE PHILLIPS PROSPECT (Mica)
(Robert Phillips Mine)
Mitchell 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

November 8, 1954

Reviewed by
DMEA OPERATING COMMITTEE
11/17/54
(date)

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
ON
DMEA-3529, SUSIE PHILLIPS PROSPECT (mica)
(Robert Phillips Mine)

Applicant: John Phillips, Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Considerable mining has been done at this mine, chiefly for feldspar. Most of the mica observed is badly mineral-stained and not of strategic grade; thus, it is recommended that exploratory assistance be denied.

The Susie Phillips Prospect (Robt. Phillips Mine) is 3.1 airline miles N. 22° E. of Bonneford, Mitchell County, N. C., on the west side of Snow Creek.

The property was examined on November 3, 1954. Messrs. Sam L. Phillips and Robert Phillips, Sr. accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required one and one-half hours.

An unpublished report of the U. S. G. S., author unknown, gives the following information on the mine:

" It is said to have been opened about 1860, and has been worked for short periods by many prople. According to Robert Phillips, Sr., the first large-scale stoping was done from a 25-foot shaft along a quartz core 8 feet thick. Core margin "A" mica was obtained from the northwest side and flat books from the southeast side. Several tons of beryl also was recovered. Extensive robbing of the old workings at a later date resulted in their collapse to form two elongate surface depressions about 60 feet long and 15 feet deep. During recent years a Mr. English of Spruce Pine drove a 70-foot tunnel, but ceased operations when old workings were encountered.

The hanging-wall contact of the deposit cuts irregularly across the structure of the country rock, a hornblende gneiss with well defined layering that strikes N. 60° E. and dips 70° SSE. to vertical. The thickness of the pegmatite body is not known. In addition to the quartz core, the deposit consists of medium-to coarse-grained microcline, plagioclase, and muscovite, with accessory garnet, beryl, and columbite-tantalite. The mica is brown to greenish brown, and most is black specked and badly clay stained. Ruling and haircracks are other defects. Some of the books are said to have been very large."

All of the mica observed by the examiners is "A-type" and most is badly mineral-stained and mottled. Only a small percent would be ~~xxxxx~~ classified as strategic by present Government specifications. Beryl is also reported to have been recovered from past mining operations but none was observed.

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

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

NOV 8 1954

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

November 16, 1954

Memorandum

REVIEW OF FIELD TEAM REPORT ON APPLICATION DMEA-3529 (Mica)

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

From: R. D. Trace, U. S. Geological Survey

Applicant: John Phillips

Name of property: Susie Phillips prospect

Location of property: Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: November 8, 1954

Authorship of Field Team Report: K. H. Teague and D. H. Amos, U.S.G.S., and L. E. Shirley, U.S.B.M.

Field Team's recommendation: Deny exploration assistance.

ACTION RECOMMENDED: Follow Field Team recommendation.

R. D. Trace

RDTrace;hlm
G-11/16/54

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

600

OCT 22 1954

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

Subject: Docket No. DMEA-3529 - Mica
John Phillips
Susie Phillips Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Laurence:

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

Copies of memoranda from the Geological Survey, dated October 19, 1954, and from the Bureau of Mines, dated October 15, 1954, are enclosed for your information.

Sincerely yours,

George C. Selfridge
Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

J. H. Hedges
Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard
Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 4

WCAnderson:gad 10/21/54
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5223
Mr. Houk

600

OCT 22 1954

Mr. John Phillips

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3529 - Mica
Susie Phillips Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Phillips:

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. Lawrence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region VII, Room 13, Post Office Building, Knoxville 2, Tennessee, for further consideration and possibly a field examination.

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,

C. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 10/21/54

Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region VII
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Killsgaard, 5223
Mr. Houk

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

October 19, 1954

Re: DMEA-3589
John Phillips
(Susie Phillips
Prospect)
Mitchell Co., N.C.
$8,500 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

The applicant proposes a project involving 100 feet of trenching, sinking a 90 feet shaft and 100 feet of drifting.

We have no available information in our files on this prospect.

It is reported that mica and beryl were produced some years ago from old workings which reached a depth of 30 feet.

I recommend this application be referred to the Field Team for their recommendation and a possible examination if they consider it is necessary.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-10/19/54

Copy to: Director's reading, 4212
Branch reading, 4212
DMEA (4)
Docket file
W. F. Dietrich, 3061

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

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
OCT 18 1954

October 15, 1954

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials Branch

Subject: DMEA-3529 (mica)

Applicant: John Phillips

Name and Location of Property: Susie Phillips Prospect
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Ceramic & Fertilizer Mtls. Br.: 10/13/54

Comments:

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

2. Proposed exploration is consistent with good engineering practice and estimated expenditures are in line with other DMEA projects in the area.

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.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich