J.V.K.

600

May 18, 1955

Memorandum

To: The Files

From: Walter C. Anderson, Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Evaluation of Application and Field Examination Report
Docket No. DMSA-3733 - Mica
George W. Nesbitt, Howard Dugger
Martin Morets Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Denial of this application is recommended

Mica - Ruby colored, heavily curved and warped, mineral stained.

Pegmatite - Unzoned, conformable to hornblende gneiss wall rock, 2½ to 4 feet thick, and exposed along strike for 35 feet.

Old workings - Bulldozer cut 6 feet deep by 35 feet long.

Method of exploring - Bulldozing, 250 feet of shaft and 150 feet of drift.

Economics - No previous production, mica is of non-strategic quality. No possibilities for production. The DMEA and the commodity members from the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines concur in the Field Team recommendation to deny the application.

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:pk 8/8/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk
Mr. Anderson

MAY 2 7 1955

Messrs. George W. Meshitt,
Howard Dugger and Dave Dugger
Elk Park, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3733 - Mica
George W. Meshitt, Howard Dugger
and Dave Dugger
Martin Marvin Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Gentlemen:

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:gad 5/17/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Kilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Hank
Operating Committee

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office Records Administration
RECEIVED
MAY 26 1955

May 26, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Donald R. Irving, Acting for W. F. Dietrich,
Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3733 (mica)

Applicant: Nesbitt, Dugger and Dugger

Name and Location of Property: Martin Moretz Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Date of Field Team Report: 5-2-55

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 5-23-55

Field Team Recommendation:

1. Denial.

Comments:

1. Mica does not meet stockpile specifications.

2. Exposures at this mine are poor and give little evidence that a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica exists.

Recommendation:

I concur in the field team recommendation.

Signed

Donald R. Irving

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

May 20, 1955

Re: DMEA-3733
Beebitt, Dugger & Dugger
Martin Moretz Mine
Elk Park, N. C.
Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of Field Team report

The report of the examiners give the Field Team good reasons for recommending the denial of this application.

N. E. Nelson

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

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

May 12, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Field Team, D. M. E. A Region 5, Knoxville, Tenn.

Subject: Field Examination Report: DMEA-3733(mica) Nesbitt, Dugger & Dugger, Elk Park, N. C. Martin Moretz Mine, N. C.

Enclosed are four copies of the subject examination report. The examination was made without field referral to avoid duplication of travel.

We agree with the recommendation for denial of the application.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION V

V. J. LYNCH
Member, Bureau of Mines

HAL/mm

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
REGION V

ON

DMEA-3733, MARTIN MORETZ MINE (mica)
Watauga County, N. C.

By

Kefton H. Teague, Geologist
U. S. G. S.

D. H. Amos, Geologist
U. S. G. S.

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

May 4, 1955

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT

DMEA-3733 (mica) MARTIN MORETZ MINE, N. C.

Applicants: Geo. W. Nesbitt, Howard Dugger and Dave Dugger, Elk Park, N.C.

Most of the mica at this mine is not of strategic quality. It is recommended that exploration assistance be denied.

The Martin Morents is 4.0 airline miles N. 23° W of Boone, Watauga County, North Carolina. It is on the east side of Howard's Creek Road 5.5 miles by road from the junction of old U. S. Highway 221.

The deposit was examined on May 4, 1955. Mr. Dave Dugger accompanied the examiners on the examination which required one hour.

Only a limited amount of work has been done on the property. A bulldozer cut about 6 feet deep along a pegmatite has exposed it on its strike for about 35 feet. The body is 2 1/2 to 4 feet thick and shows no apparent zoning. It strikes N. 20° W. but has a variable dip which averages about 30° to the northeast. The pegmatite consists of plagioclase, perthite, quartz and muscovite, in order of abundance. It is conformable to the enclosing wall rock which is hornblende gneiss except for a thin zone of mica schist about 6 inches thick along the contacts of the body.

The mica tends to be distributed evently throughout the pegmatite. It is ruby-colored, badly curved and warped and contains in part biotite-inclusions and other mineral staining. Most of the mica will not meet stockpile qualifications for strategic mica because of its curved character. Because of this application for exploration assistance should be denied.

May 4, 1955

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

and

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.

MAR 29 1955

March 25, 1955

Re: DMEA-3733
Nesbitt & Dugger
(Martin Moreta Mine)
Watauga Co., N. C.
$24,465 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

The operator proposes bulldozing, open pitting and underground work which ultimately would involve 250 feet of shaft and 150 feet of drift.

We do not have any information in our files on this property.

From the limited data presented and the amount of money requested there appears to be very little justification for referring this application to the Field Team.

Before any further processing is undertaken, I recommend the operator be requested to submit a map of the deposit and additional substantiating evidence. There is nothing in the present application which suggests that mica is present on the Martin Moreta property.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-3/25/55

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

March 25, 1955

Re: DMEA-3733
Rabbitt & Dugger
(Martin Marietta Mine)
Watauga Co., N. C.
$24,465 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of application

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Before any further processing is undertaken, I recommend the operator be requested to submit a map of the deposit and additional substantiating evidence. There is nothing in the present application which suggests that mica is present on the Martin Marietta property.

E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-3/25/55

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
APR 5 1955

April 4, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3733 (mica)

Applicant: Nesbitt & Dugger

Name and Location of Property: Martin Moretz Mine
Watauga County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fert. Mtls.: 3/23/55

Comments:

1. No map was attached to the copy of the application received by this office.

2. Proposed exploration is not explicit and the estimate of expenditures should be made on a unit-cost basis.

3. The estimated costs of $24,465 are extremely high for a mica exploration project.

4. It is suggested applicant be requested to submit more detailed information regarding an exploration plan.

Recommendation:

No action should be taken on this application until the applicant furnishes additional information on the proposed project and related information.

Signed

W. F. Dietrich

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
APR - 5 1955

April 4, 1955

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From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

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BUREAU OF MINES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Defense Minerals Administration
RECEIVED
APR - 5 1955

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W. F. Dietrich

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

March 25, 1955

MAR 29 1955

Re: DMEA-3733
Beshitt & Dugger
(Martin Marets Mine)
Watauga Co., N. C.
$24,465 - Mica

Memorandum

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E. L. Newcomb

ELNewcomb:hlm
G-3/25/55

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