600

SEP 22 1955

Mr. T. R. Burleson

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3917 - Mica
T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson
and Russell Burleson
Annie Pitman Property
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Burleson:

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

WCAnderson:gad 9/21/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Field Team, Region V
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Hook
Mr. Anderson

September 21, 1955

Memorandum

To: File

From: Walter C. Anderson, Nonmetallic Minerals Division

Subject: Evaluation of application and field examination report.
Docket No. DMEA-3917 - Mica
T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson and Russell Burleson
Audie Pitman Property
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Denial of application is recommended.

Mica: Strategic quality, green-colored, clean, free-splitting and small in size. Some cracked and reeved and some flat "A".

Pegmatite: Conformable pegmatite 1/4 to 1-1/2 feet thick, exposed for a distance of 250 feet along strike. Zoned and unzoned in different places along strike. Enclosing country rock in biotite gneiss. A second parallel pegmatite 175 feet south, about one foot thick and of similar composition.

Old workings: None.

Method of exploring: The applicant proposes to sink 75 feet of shaft and 100 feet of drifts at a cost of $3,480.00.

Recommendation: The Field Team recommends denial of the application because it is very doubtful if the pegmatite is thick enough to sustain an economic mining operation. There is no evidence that the body thickens with depth. Has no tendency to thicken along strike where it is exposed for 250 feet. The Nonmetallic Minerals Division concurs as do the commodity specialists of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines.

Walter C. Anderson
Nonmetallic Minerals Division

WCAnderson:gad 9/21/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Mr. Houk
Mr. Anderson

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

RECEIVED
SEP 15 1955

September 15, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA-3917 (mica)

Applicant: T. Johnson, T. R. Burleson, R. Burleson

Name and Location of Property: Audie Pitman Property, Mitchell Co., N. C.

Date of Field Team Report: 8/24/55

Date Rec'd. by Br. of Ceramic & Fertilizer Materials: 9/13/55

Field Team Recommendation: Recommend denial of application.

Comments:

1. Possibility for discovery of a worthwhile deposit of strategic mica is considered poor.

Recommendation: I concur with the recommendation of the field team for denial of this contract.

W. F. Dietrich

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

RECEIVED
SEP 13 1955

September 12, 1955

Re: DMEA 3917
T. M. Burleson, Troy Johnson,
and Russell Burleson
Sadie Pitman property
Mitchell Co., N. C.
$3,480 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of Field Team Report.

The applicants proposed 75 feet of shafting and 100 feet of drifting on this pegmatite. The application made no mention of the width of the pegmatite, but stated 50 pounds of mica had been recovered from "very little working".

The conclusions of the examiners are fitting, in view of the scarcity of mica in the outcrop of the narrow pegmatite uncovered by bulldozing.

I concur with the denial recommendation of the Field Team.

M. E. Nelson

M. E. Nelson

MENelson:iml
G-9/12/55

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

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

RECEIVED
SEP - 8 1955

September 6, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

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

Subject: Field Examination Report - DMEA-3917 (mica) Audie Pitman Property, Mitchell County, N. C.

Transmitted are four copies of the subject report.

The Field Team agrees with the examiners' recommendation for denial of this application.

Robert A. Laurence
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DMEA REGION V

V. J. Lynch, Member
U. S. Bureau of Mines

ZM.
cc:
Lynch
Laurence
Shirley

RECEIVED
SEP - 8 1955

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION

REPORT OF EXAMINATION BY FIELD TEAM, REGION V

On

DMEA-3917, (mica) AUDIE PITMAN PROPERTY
Mitchell County, North Carolina

By

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

and

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

August 24, 1955

RECEIVED
SEP - 8 1955

FIELD EXAMINATION REPORT
On
DMEA-3917 (mica) AUDIE PITMAN PROPERTY

Applicants: T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson and Russell Burleson, c/o T. R. Burleson, Spruce Pine, North Carolina.

Recent work on this property has exposed a newly discovered pegmatite for about 250 feet along its strike. Mica of strategic grade is present but it is very doubtful if the pegmatite is thick enough to sustain an economic mining operation; thus, it is recommended that the application for exploration be denied.

The Prospect on the Audie Pitman property is on the ridge west of Beaver Creek and 1.4 miles due north of Spruce Pine, Mitchell County, N. C.

The property was examined on August 24, 1955. Messrs. T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson and Russell Burleson accompanied the examiners on the inspection which required two hours.

The nearest road access is about 0.5 miles from the property. Difficult terrain would make construction of a road to the Prospect expensive. No surface facilities are present nor is water or power readily available.

A conformable pegmatite 1/4 to 1 1/2 feet thick is exposed almost continuously for about 250 feet along its strike by natural outcrops and several small pits. It strikes north-south and dips about 10° to the east. The body consists of plagioclase, potash feldspar, quartz, muscovite and garnet. Compostition varies considerably along strike with local absence of potash feldspar, especially on the south end and local abundance of massive quartz to the north. In places the pegmatite is zoned having a medial quartz core; in other places no zoning is apparent. The enclosing country rock is biotite schist and gneiss. A second pegmatite which is parallel to the one described above and about 175 feet to the south has been exposed by two small pits.

It is about 1 foot thick and is similar composition.

The mica is green-colored, clear, free-splitting and of small sizes. Some is cracked and reeved and a small amount if flat "A". Most is strategic quality. The mica is more abundant and of better quality in those portions of the pegmatite free of potash feldspar.

It is the opinion of the field examiners that this deposit could not be mined economically because of the thin character of the pegmatite. There is no evidence suggesting that the body would thicken down dip as the applicants believe, as it is now exposed for considerable distance along the strike without any tendency to thicken. It is recommended that exploration assistance be denied.

August 24, 1955.

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

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

Mr. T. R. Burleson

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

Re: Docket No. DMEA-3917 - Mica
T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson
and Russell Burleson
Audie Pitman Property
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Burleson:

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. Laurence, Executive Officer, DMEA Field Team, Region V, 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 you may give the members of the Field Team during the examination will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

D. O. Mittendorf

Administrator

WCAnderson:gad 8/10/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Field Team, Region V
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk
Mr. Anderson

600

AUG 12 1955

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

Subject: Docket No. M[illegible]-9917 - Mica
T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson
and Russell Burleson
Audie Pitman Property
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

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

Copies of memoranda from Mr. H. E. Nelson, dated August 3, 1955, and Mr. W. F. Dietrich, dated August 8, 1955, Members of the Mica Commodity Committee, are enclosed.

We are returning the applicants' lease and two executed sets of six copies each of the Owner's Consent to Lien. You will note that there is a difference in the signatures of Pearl Pitman on the lease and the Owner's Consents to Lien. If a second party signed for Pearl Pitman, a copy of the power of attorney should be furnished. Please investigate and if a second party signed, have the proper notation made on the document for Pearl Pitman. Also note the discrepancy in the spelling of Pitman. In either case please take the necessary steps to clear up this question.

If your office recommends an exploration program approved by the applicants, please furnish the necessary information to draft a contract. In this connection we will require nine copies of a map showing the proposed work and pegmatite exposures in relation to the property lines.

Sincerely yours,

W. S. Martin

ACTING Chairman, Operating Committee

Approved:

/s/ Robert W. Geehan

Member, Bureau of Mines

Thor H. Kiilsgaard

Member, Geological Survey

Enclosures 17

WCAnderson:pk 8/11/55
Copy to: Admr. R. File
Docket
Operating Committee
Mr. Kiilsgaard, 5222
Mr. Dietrich, 3061
Mr. Houk

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DEFENSE MINERALS EXPLORATION ADMINISTRATION
ROOWASHINGTON 25, D.C.
KNOXVILLE 2, TENN.

RECEIVED
AUG - 8 1955

August 4, 1955

Memorandum

To: Operating Committee, DMEA - Washington

From: Executive Officer - DMEA - Region V

Subject: DMEA-3917, T. R. Burleson, Troy Johnson & Russell Burleson, Spruce Pine, N. C. Audie Pitman Property, Mitchell County. Signed Owner's Consent to Lien forms.

Transmitted are six signed copies of forms MF-203, on the subject application. Please refer to our transmittal letter of July 25.

Robert A. Laurence

ZM.
cc:
Lynch
Files

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

RECEIVED
AUG - 9 1955

August 8, 1955

Memorandum

To: Nonmetallic Minerals Division
Defense Minerals Exploration Administration

From: Chief, Branch of Ceramic and Fertilizer Materials

Subject: DMEA - 3917 (mica)

Applicant: T. R. Burleson, T. Johnson, R. Burleson

Name and Location of Property: Audie Pitman Property
Mitchell County, North Carolina

Date Application Rec'd. by Br. of Ceram. and Fert. Materials: July 27, 1955

Comments:

1. Although it would be desirable for the applicant to furnish more complete information, it appears that a visit by an examiner would furnish more useful data.

2. This deposit appears to have possibilities for the development of strategic mica.

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

August 3, 1955

Re: DMEA 3917
T. R. Burleson, et al.
Audie Pitman Mine
Mitchell Co., N. C.
$3,480 - Mica

Memorandum

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

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

Subject: Review of Application.

If 50 pounds of good mica has been recovered from a "very little working," the applicant probably has a showing which, at least, deserves stripping.

That such is the case is for the examiners to say and referral to the Field Team recommended.

N. E. Nelson

N. E. Nelson

NENelson:iml
G-8/3/55

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