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(109)
Item 6

RENO OFFICE
RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION
MINING SECTION
REPORT OF SUPERVISING ENGINEER

Docket No. ND-5768

Date Application Received

August 25, 1943

Date of Examination - No examination by RPC

Date of Report

Sept. 15, 1943

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANTS

Louis Rossi and Tony Rossi
Cortez, via Beowawe, Nevada

Correspondent

Tony Rossi
Cortez, via Beowawe, Nevada

LOCATION OF MINE

Land Co.
In Cortez Mining District, Esmeralda County, Nevada, about 30 miles south of Beowawe, in an air line, and about 50 miles south of the same place by road. Beowawe is a station on the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad traversing Nevada.

The Section, Township and Range in which the mine is located is not stated by the Applicants. Inasmuch as the Cortez District covers a considerable area, the property could be in any one of several sub-divisions, but for present purposes, I do not consider the exact location of the property important.

The Applicants state the entire road is a county dirt road, in fair repair at present. The Bureau of Mines engineer states that the road is impassable during the winter and spring months.

CHARACTER OF PROJECT AND ESTIMATED COST THEREOF

Applicants give no breakdown of nature of expenditures; in fact the entire application is very hazy and sketchy as far as pertinent information is concerned. However, Applicants do state:

"The shaft is now in ore all the way down is to be extended at least one hundred (100) feet; the tunnel is to be extended one-hundred feet and will then be under the ore and the shaft.

Trenching, sinking shafts in ore showings and developing generally for three thousand feet along the ledge. Putting in a small plant for testing and prospecting purposes."

APPLICANTS' INTEREST IN OR OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY

Application is made on behalf of Louis Rossi and Tony Rossi, but on the 27th day of May, 1943, Louis Rossi conveyed all of his interest in and to the claims covered in the application, to Tony Rossi, his brother, so that the record title now stands in the name of Tony Rossi.

Certified copies of the Certificates of Location were submitted with the application. They show that all of the subject claims were located by Louis Rossi, so that apparently he has no interest in the property in view of the deed above mentioned, unless a partnership agreement exists between the brothers; but, if so, no copy of such partnership agreement was filed with the application.

LOAN REQUESTED

\$20,000.00.

LOAN RECOMMENDED

None

COMMENTS

Reference is made to my letter of August 31, 1943, transmitting duplicate copy of application, also memorandum by J. E. Gelder of this office, with reference to the application, and submitted with above letter referred to.

I am attaching copy of report by an Engineer for the U. S. Bureau of Mines, who examined this property in March, 1943. Under sampling, it will be noted that one sample, assaying 38 pounds of mercury per ton, was taken from -

"a small spot, one square foot in area, near the bottom of the deepest shaft."

The rest of the samples showed practically nothing.

Applicants admit they have no available assays of samples; that there is no equipment of any kind on the property; that there is no water available, except for drinking purposes - from small springs near the mercury deposit.

The loan applied for is definitely for prospecting purposes, and the Applicants at least impliedly admit as much.

APPLICANTS

I have never met the gentlemen in question, but I do not think this is pertinent, as it is inconceivable that anyone would recommend a loan on a project such as this, regardless of the Applicants' character, ability, or mining experience.

It is indicated that considerable time was spent in preparing the application, which, in my opinion, consists practically of all smoke, but no fire.

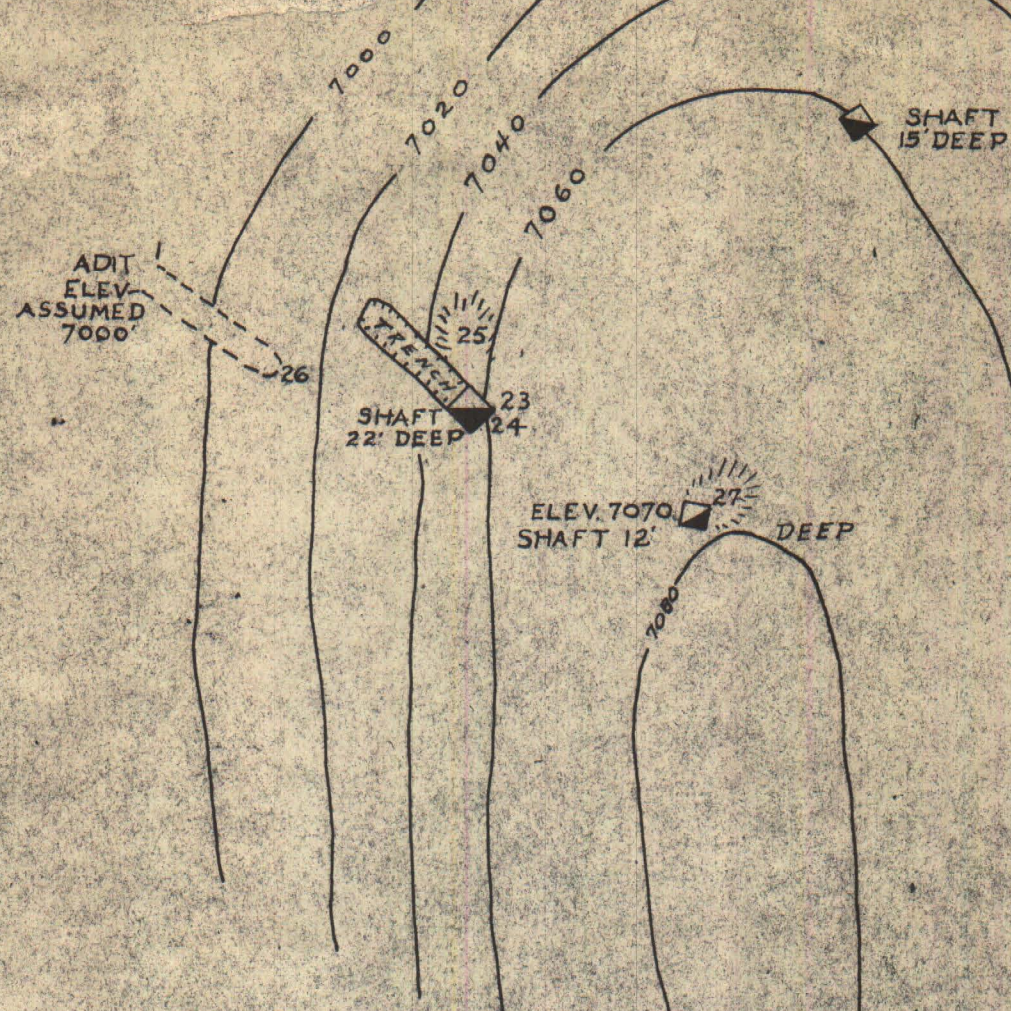
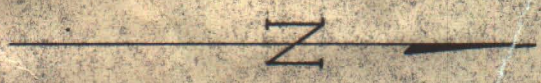
CONCLUSIONS

Data submitted by Applicants is confirmed by Bureau of Mines; that is to say, there is nothing on the property to justify work of any kind, in view of dozens of showings of mercury ore much better than this, and widely scattered throughout the West.

I do not think, from data submitted, the property may be expected to produce even low-grade mercury ore in any quantity. There is no promise of a sustained operation. The project will not be of benefit to the War effort, and labor and materials would not only be diverted from more worthy projects, but, in my opinion, would be wasted if diverted to this project.

Respectfully submitted,


L. D. GORDON
Supervising Engineer



ASSAYS

Sample No.	Location-Width	Mercury Lbs/ton
23	10' below collar-1 ft.	38.0
24	Bottom of shaft-3 ft.	0.5
25	Dump	1.6
26	Face of adit	0.1
27	Dump	0.1

United States
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
District Engineers Office
Reno, Nevada

TONY ROSSI MERCURY CLAIMS
near
Cortez, Nevada

Eng'r <u>M.C.S.</u>	Scale 1" = 40'	DWG. No. 1
Appr'd <u>G.L.A.</u>	Date: Dec. 1942	N.M.V. Nov. 30

M.M.
Nev-80
March 1943

WAR MINERALS MEMORANDUM ¹/

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - BUREAU OF MINES

Report of the Bureau of Mines to Hon. Harold L. Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior

TONY ROSSI MERCURY CLAIMS
Cortez Mining District

Eureka County, Nevada

-Mercury-

Summary

The Tony Rossi Mercury claims are located on the eastern slope of the Cortez Mountains, about 30 miles south of Beowawe, Nevada.

An engineer from the Bureau of Mines examined the property November 14, 1942, and obtained five samples from the deposit. These samples indicated only very small spots of commercial ore. No evidence of structural control of the mercury depositions is obvious in the present development work, which consists of three shallow shafts totaling 49 feet, and a 35-foot adit.

No further work by the Bureau of Mines is recommended at this time.

Introduction

Tony Rossi's mercury claims are located in T. 26 N., R. 48 E., M.D.M., Eureka County, Nevada, on the eastern slope of the Cortez Mountains. The property can be reached traveling 15 miles of desert road northeast from the old mining camp of Cortez, Nevada. A person unfamiliar with this locality would need guide assistance to get to the property.

A preliminary examination of this property was made on November 14th, 1942, by an engineer of the Bureau of Mines.

History

Rossi Brothers lately prospected and discovered this deposit, which was found by panning both sides of a detached knoll on the east side of the Cortez Mountains. At the time of examination, no mercury production had been secured from the property.

Physical Features

No compressor or mining equipment is at the property. The nearest supply center and railroad is Beowawe, Nevada,

1/ These memoranda present the facts reported by Bureau of Mines engineers regarding properties for which no further consideration is recommended. Therefore, they should be treated as confidential, for the sole use of Bureau employees. They should not be given out to the public or to the owners of the properties concerned.

51 miles north, by road, from the property. Water for drinking purposes can be secured from small springs near the deposit. During the winter and spring months, the road would be impassable from Cortez to the claims.

Description of the Deposit

A small area near the western end of the knoll has been explored by three shafts, 12, 15, and 22 feet deep, and by one tunnel 35 feet in length. The tunnel is 60 feet lower in elevation than the bottom of the deepest shaft. Cinnabar, the only recognizable ore mineral, occurs in a calcareous shale, which is very unevenly mineralized. No structural control of this deposit could be determined by the present development work.

The deposit has been only slightly prospected and developed; further exploration work might disclose the geology of the ore deposition and lead to the discovery of commercial ore bodies.

Sampling

Sample No. 23, assaying 38.0 pounds of mercury per ton, was taken from a small spot, one square foot in area, near the bottom of the deepest shaft.

Sample No. 24 was cut across the bedding of the bottom three feet of the deepest shaft, and assayed 0.5 pounds of mercury per ton.

Sample No. 25 was taken as an 'all over' sample from the dump and should represent the total material excavated from this shaft. Assay of this sample was reported as 1.6 pounds of mercury per ton.

Two other samples were taken from this deposit and assayed less than 0.1 pound of mercury per ton. Tonnage at this deposit cannot be estimated from the present amount of development.

Conclusions

Further work at this time, by the Bureau of Mines, is not recommended because of the following reasons:

- 1) No ore of commercial grade is exposed except in very small spots which could not be mined at a profit.
- 2) No plant or mine equipment is on the property.
- 3) Sufficient development work by the owners has not been done to determine the structural control of the mercury deposition. Unless a large body of ore exceeding four pounds of mercury per ton is blocked out, no production from this deposit can be expected.

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