

5340 0011

PROPERTY NAME: Section 2
OTHER NAMES: Bluff
MINERAL COMMODITY(IES): Montmorillonite clay
TYPE OF DEPOSIT: Alteration of perlite volcanic rocks
ACCESSIBILITY: Good road to deposit.
OWNERSHIP: Bluff group of claims owned by R.T. Vanderbilt Co.
PRODUCTION: Small, probably < 1000 tons
HISTORY:

County: Pershing
Mining District: Willard
AMS Sheet: Lovelock
Quad Sheet: Lovelock 15'
Sec. 2, T 27N, R 32E
Coordinate (UTM):
North 4 4 5 4 2 5 0 m
East 0 3 8 5 4 0 0 m
Zone

DEVELOPMENT: Small open pit and numerous small test pits.

ACTIVITY AT TIME OF EXAMINATION: Semiactive; recent mining.

GEOLOGY: The montmorillonite is an alteration product of perlite or perlitic pitchstone present in a sequence of volcanic rocks of Tertiary age. The rocks strike northwestward and dip about 45° NE. The perlitic bed can be traced for more than 3000 feet, but most of the montmorillonite is in the northwestern half. The perlite - montmorillonite unit ranges from partly devitrified perlite through mixed perlite and montmorillonite to nearly pure montmorillonite. Size of the better clay bodies could not be determined. The montmorillonite (sample 002725) is white to very light gray and fine grained; contaminants include quartz and calcite. Some has high swelling and high viscosity.

REMARKS:

REFERENCES: Papke, K.G. (1970) Montmorillonite, bentonite, and fuller's earth deposit in Nevada: Nevada Bureau of Mines Bull. 76, p. 38-39.

EXAMINER: Keith G. Papke

DATE VISITED: 10/9/84