

SAM'S RANCH CHERT

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

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ECONOMICS:

USES:

The proposed use for this material is for roofing granules to be utilized in roofing paper manufactured by several Portland firms. It is possible several other uses may be found for by-products as fillers and foundry sand blasting material.

TONNAGES:

Accurate tonnages of chert in this deposit cannot be made because of the lack of good outcrops and surface prospecting. Assuming the area mapped is a solid block of chert for a distance of 75 feet below the highest outcrop the deposit would contain 177,650 tons. To be assured of this tonnage some surface trenching and possibly several inclined holes should be drilled from the south slope of the deposit. The ultimate tonnage of chert, which can be extracted from the deposit, is possibly several times the above estimate as it appears likely a portion of the original chert bed is covered by talus and younger overlapping sedimentary formations. However, it is hazardous to project the deposits horizontally or vertically too far because it is quite likely during the period these Jurassic beds were up lifted and folded considerable faulting took place and this deposit may represent only a small segment of a much larger body. It appears some drilling and surface exploration should be done before a plant is built which will utilize any large amount of chert from this deposit.

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PLANT:

The plant will consist of washing, crushing, and sizing equipment. The crushing plant will consist of a jaw crusher, gyratory and rolls in closed circuit with proper sizing equipment. The plant probably will be located on Lookingglass Creek about 1/2 mile from the deposit. The processed chert will be hauled to Dillard for rail shipment.

It is estimated that 50-70 percent of chert mined will be discarded as undersize or waste which makes it desirable that the plant be located as close to the quarry as possible to save hauling of waste material.

MARKETS:

Possible markets for the roofing granules are Portland and San Francisco. Roofing granules for the Portland area come from Missouri and other eastern sources. Ore deposit in central California supplies a portion of the San Francisco market. This latter deposit is reportedly about mined out. A market for some of the fines as a filler in cement aggregates to replace cement is possible outlet in the Portland area.

The deposit as a source of roofing granules has a substantial advantage in freight rates over its competitors and is so situated that processing and the haul to the railroad will not be excessive.

Initial output of the plant is expected to be 5000-10,000 tons per year. Several Portland consumers have indicated

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that they would use about 4000 tons per year.

Estimates of costs cannot be made until size of plants has been determined, which will largely effect production cost.

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