

MINERAL RESOURCE SURVEY
Circular No. 3

A mineral resource survey of Texas has been started by the Works Progress Administration, the Bureau of Economic Geology of The University of Texas acting as sponsor. The purpose of the survey is to assemble information available to the public. Through a separate project, sponsored by the State Planning Board, the results of the survey, as they are received in Austin, are being assembled for publication. The mineral resource survey is helping in the location of mineral products, from some of which it is reasonable to suppose industries of value to the State may be developed.

A considerable number of requests from persons and companies seeking new undeveloped mineral products in Texas come to the University. Several such requests were listed in Circular No. 1, issued February 27, 1936. Circular No. 2, giving an account of greensand deposits in Bexar County was issued March 27, 1936. Additional requests relating to mineral deposits received since these circulars were issued are as follows:

The Union Chemical and Minerals Company, Houston, Texas, is seeking diatomaceous earth in Texas. The company is now purchasing this product in California.

The Porter Chemical Company, Pennsylvania and Prospect Avenues, Hagerstown, Maryland, is seeking a particular grade of lignite suitable for use in their plant.

Mr. B. F. Williams, Room 227 Federal Building, Brownsville, Texas, is seeking to locate guano deposits.

George T. Weigart, 4704 Pershing Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, is interested in locating and developing a high calcium limestone of 98% plus calcium carbonate content and low enough in silica and ferric oxide content to meet the requirement of the more exacting chemical industries.

The Filtrol Company of Los Angeles, California, mentioned in Circular No. 1, seeking a filtering clay, has offered to make filtering tests on any samples submitted.

The Chamber of Commerce at Brownwood, Texas, has an inquiry for glass sand suitable for making lenses.

The Industrial Department of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce has made inquiry about available building stone.

The Tennessee Valley Authority wishes to know the exact location and quantity of Texas kaolin deposits.

It is part of the work of the mineral resource survey to make information of this kind available with a view to developing Texas mineral resources. The information obtained is distributed by means of mimeographed circulars. Page 1 of Circular No. 1 (below) is for convenience of reference to previous inquiries.

Inquiries as to Mineral Products in Texas

Inquiries relating to Texas mineral resources are received from time to time at The University of Texas. The following extracts from letters received since this survey was started will serve to indicate the wide interest in Texas mineral resources.

The Monett Clay Company, P. O. Box 291, Monett, Missouri:

"We are having so many inquiries from oil refineries for a fuller's earth clay, that it has become necessary that we enlarge our scope and include this clay in our production."

The Hartford-Empire Company, Hartford, Connecticut:

"In the interests of our customers, we are collecting information on sources of glass-making raw materials within your State. Therefore, we should like to learn how to obtain information regarding their location, extent, and approximate annual output."

The Filtrol Company, 315 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, California:

"This company is particularly interested in deposits of fuller's earth and bentonite, suitable for decolorizing or absorbent purposes. It will be greatly appreciated if you will supply us with information regarding the proposed survey, in order that we may be able to keep in touch with progress from time to time."

The Refinite Company, Omaha, Nebraska:

"We are interested in obtaining samples of clays, which would not only be available in commercial quantities, but also close to water transportation and workable. We would be interested in clays which carry roughly 20% alumina to 40%, or even 50%, silica, and as low a calcium carbonate content as possible."

C. J. Koenig, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio:

"At the request of the United States Potters' Association we are undertaking a comprehensive investigation on the use of syentites in ceramic bodies. The supplies of the better grades of feldspars are rapidly becoming depleted and the potters are therefore looking for a substitute. We would greatly appreciate any information relative to such deposits in your state and to their distance from suitable means of transportation."

J. D. Kerr, Jr., Development Agent, Industrial Development Department, Missouri-Kansas-Texas Lines, Saint Louis, Missouri:

"Our Company is deeply interested in these mineral surveys. Our department is devoted to the development of raw materials in the territory we serve and has a definite use for the information developed by these surveys. We are 'selling' Texas resources all the time and these mineral surveys provide us with a valuable source of 'ammunition'."