



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT  
HAZARDOUS WASTE SECTION**

**ACTIVITY REPORT**

SUBJECT: IEM Fabricators Complaint Investigation

LOCATION: McDowell County                      DATE: January 9, 2002

ADDRESS: 130 Franklin Ave. (P.O.Box 1630)    TIME SPENT: 4 hrs.

CITY: Marion                      STATE: N.C.                      ZIP: 28752

BY WHOM: Brent G. Burch - Waste Management Specialist

PERSONS CONTACTED: Johnny Robinson - Owner (828/652-2615); Don Brooks - IEM Vice-President

REASON FOR VISIT: Complaint investigation.

COPIES TO: Jesse Wells - Western Area Supervisor

REPORT:    On January 9, 2002, Mr. Brent Burch, Waste Management Specialist with this office, conducted a complaint investigation at IEM Fabricators, McDowell County, Marion, North Carolina. Mr. Burch was met at the site by Mr. Johnny Robinson, owner of the property. According to Mr. Robinson the facility fabricates metal pieces to be used as handrails, gates, and fences. As part of the operations the facility spray paints a primer on the metal parts. The painting of parts is done outside the facility. Mr. Burch observed a graveled area approximately 30' x 30' on the west side of the facility where spray painting of metal parts was being conducted. A 10' x 10' area was also observed on the south side of the building. The soil/gravel in both areas was covered in red and black primer. According to Mr. Robinson the facility has been in operation approximately six to eight months. A waterborne primer is presently being used but oil based primers had reportedly been used in the past. Mr. Robinson did not have available on site material safety data sheets (MSDS) for the primers or solvent blends being used in the operation. Water is presently being used to thin the primer and to clean spray gun lines. Mineral spirits had been used in the past to thin the oil based primers and to clean the spray gun lines. The two areas identified as having been impacted from primer overspray were also reportedly used to dispose of spray gun flush waste. Mr. Burch visited Caraway's Paint Store to obtain MSDS for materials used at IEM Fabricators. According to the MSDS the primers contained xylene, vmp naphtha and mineral spirits.

An Imminent Hazard NOV will be issued from the Raleigh Central Office.

ACTIVITY TYPE: CHECK MOST APPROPRIATE

1. COMPLAINT