

DEC Classifies Firm As

JUN 26 1993

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A Falconer company is among 48 locations added to the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites of the state Department of Environmental Conservation since April 1, 1992.

Ellison Bronze Co. is listed in the report as among 532 Class 2 sites statewide. The category is interpreted as posing a significant threat to public health or the environment and requiring remedial action.

Harry B. Nicholson Jr., chairman/chief executive officer of Dowcraft Corp. of which Ellison Bronze is a division, explained the situation.

He said Ellison Bronze originated in 1880 as a blacksmith shop and later a foundry, with an ownership change occurring in June 1991 when employees bought out the company.

Nicholson said an environmental audit found some lead in the ground behind the foundry. "This is old and not from any recent operations," he said. "We reported

this to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in June 1992. We have continued to work on a remediation method to secure this 'inactive hazardous waste.'"

The Dowcraft official noted that the DEC listed this property in March of this year on its registry of inactive disposal sites. "We expect the site to be remediated in the very near future," Nicholson said.

He noted the DEC report showed, "Groundwater has not been impacted by activities at this site."

Nicholson also said: "I have a meeting with the DEC on Tuesday to review our test results and plans for remediation. There is no air or water hazard and the parking lot is only a hazard if you remove the blacktop and eat the dirt."

DEC spokesman Benjamin A. Marvin said foundry sand was contaminated by lead at the site and is classified as a possible threat to the environment.

He said the sand is subject to possible ero-

sion by the Chadakoin River and Moon Brook, with the possibility that high or fast-flowing water could erode the sand into the streams.

Nicholson said: "The listing even incorrectly says 'The concern is for foundry sand under the employee parking lot.' The lead dust is the concern and the DEC has verbally agreed to that."

He also said, "In addition to lead, we had a toluene spill that was cleaned up April 12, 1993, in the presence of the DEC."

Three sites in Cattaraugus County were removed from the list since April 1, 1992, because there was no determination of hazardous waste disposal, the report showed.

The list removal involves Arrowhead Camping and two sites at Peter Cooper Corp.

The DEC's 10-volume 1993 annual report and registry was issued by Thomas C. Jorling, the state agency's commissioner.

"I am pleased to report that the figures in