

4. Roles of Officials in the World Bank Environment Sector Project

Since September, 1992, the World Bank and the Russian government have been negotiating a Bank lending operation to deal with priority environmental problems in the Russian Federation. Participants in these negotiations have included officials from Environment Canada and the U.S. EPA. The **World Bank Project** involves a natural gas recovery and processing component, initial capitalization of a National Pollution Abatement Fund as a means of directing priority pollution control investments in Russia, a nature protection component, and a technical assistance component, for a total estimated cost of \$600 million U.S.

In light of Canadian government participation in **the Project**, discussion in this subsection is limited to the roles certain officials in the MEPNR and the Ministry of Fuel and Energy appear likely to play in **the Project**, in order that the Canadian Embassy can develop and maintain contacts with these officials between **Project** missions.

In particular, Russian officials are identified to whom information about the expertise of Canadian environmental technology and service companies can be provided now, in anticipation of the companies' potential involvement in later stages of **the Project**.

The main World Bank Moscow contact concerning **the Project** is:

- Contact: Vadim Voronin
Position: Environmental Specialist, World Bank, Moscow Office
Remarks: Mr. Voronin briefed PHL on the likely future development of **the Project** and on Canada's participation in it.