

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Contact Between Moscow Embassy and Russian Officials

- PHL recommends that Embassy officials endeavour to develop and maintain contacts with the officials identified throughout this section. In addition to this general recommendation, PHL also makes periodic recommendations throughout the section concerning specific issues which should be pursued with individual officials.

Development of Policy Re: Environmental Liability

- PHL has previously referred the Minister-Councillor of the Canadian Embassy in Moscow to John Fitzgibbons, one of the group of American advisors to Vice-Prime Minister Chubais. Mr. Fitzgibbons' responsibilities include consideration of environmental liability legislation.

PHL recommends that EEE/DEA consider whether Canadian legal experts could assist the Russian government in preparing a policy on environmental liability. Specific questions mentioned by Mr. Fitzgibbons to be addressed in such a policy involve how privatization contracts should include the assignment of liability between present and previous owners, and the sharing of responsibility for such liability between federal, state and local authorities.

Identification of Wastewater Projects by Russian Officials

- Since municipal water treatment is an area of expertise of many Canadian consulting engineering and environmental technology companies, PHL recommends that Embassy officials meet with Deputy Environment Minister Poriadin, as soon as possible to obtain his views concerning specific waste water treatment projects which could benefit from the participation of Canadian companies. He should also be asked for technical information on specific projects. If this information is provided, it should then be forwarded by the Embassy to the Deputy Director of EEE/DEA. The Deputy Director should then request the assistance of appropriate officials at ISTC and Investment Canada in determining which Canadian companies should be informed about the projects.