

answered, by copying from one another, by a large number of directors.

The tiny Kareliya town of Kem' soon heard that the USSR Minister of Energy and Electrification himself, P. Neporozhnyi (now ex-Minister), was overseeing the Krivoporozhskaya GES project. The facility was promised for 1985. So what happened?

Minénergo, having so generously sent out written commitments to help, turned out to be untrustworthy in deeds. Not only was the construction site not equipped with the required human, machine and material resources, but there were even occasions when the ministry actually took funding away.

Changes finally came to our country. In October 1985, the new leaders of the autonomous republic insisted on a joint decision by a board of Minénergo USSR, the Kareliya Regional Committee of the Party, and the Kareliya Autonomous SSR Council of Ministers.

Concrete wide-ranging measures were to be applied by dozens of responsible, high-ranking officials from both the ministry, and the autonomous republic. Some were responsible for building the basic components of the generating station itself, and others for creating a new residential settlement, Krivoi Porog, for the station's builders and operators. In a word, the restless Kem' River was to be dammed in the first quarter of 1988.

As everyone knows, that first quarter is long finished. And so, more than a year and a half after the formal event of the joint decision, I went to visit the Krivoporozhskaya GES.