

Included among the plans of the new non-governmental body are the following: the allocation of funds for the establishment of ecologically clean enterprises and transportation facilities (exhaust gases are currently the main source of air pollution), and the financing of parks, nature preserves, tourist attractions and recreational areas, along with the appropriate services and amenities. It is intended that eventually, major ecopolicies and entire ecoregions will be established, in which harmony will be achieved between industry, human habitation and Nature.

The entire programme of the Ecological Fund of the USSR will be financed by voluntary donations from Soviet and foreign citizens and organizations. These are now being accepted at all branches of Zhilsotsbank of the USSR, in account No. 706801.

Lesnaya promyshlennost'

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Levels of Air and Water Pollution from Segezha Paper Mill Rated Intolerable

In late November an ecological movement "For Survival" was started in Segezha. Its organizers included prominent mill workers, physicians, engineers, teachers and journalists.

Why did it come into being? In the town it has become literally impossible to breathe. Every day the local paper mill discharges more than 150 tonnes of harmful substances into the atmosphere. To name but a few of them: methylmercaptan, hydrogen sulphide, chlorine, sulphuric acid, turpentine vapours, demethylsulphide.

Methylmercaptan alone is being intensively "cooked" at 56 sites, with the result that the maximum permissible norms for its concentration in the air are being exceeded almost 10,000 - fold! Its effects are even being felt 70 kilometres away from Segezha.