Joint Venture Proposed for the Komi Republic: a Shop to Produce Raw Material for Pulp from Low-Grade Softwood and Hardwood

The Knyazhpogostskii Timber Combine in the Komi ASSR was recently visited by a group of businessmen from the Federal Republic of Germany which consisted of representatives of the "Siemens" concern Karl Heinz Gruber and the "Sundsdefibrator" Company Boris Beck. Talks about collaboration were held with the directors of the "Ust'-Vymles" administration and the Knyazhpogostskii Timber Combine.

The two sides considered the possibility of building a shop at the Knyazhpogostskii Timber Combine which would produce raw material from low-grade coniferous and broad-leaved species of trees to be used in the milling of pulp. The annual capacity of the shop is to be 50,000 to 60,000 tons and the cost of a ton of raw material - 500 roubles. It is proposed to begin building the shop in 1991 and complete the task a year and half later.

Construction will be financed by "Siemens" with delivery of the equipment for assembly to be guaranteed by the "Sundsdefibrator" Company. Sweden will supply the equipment and Belgium will ensure that the output is sold.

"The most important thing of all", said one participant in the discussion - Nikolai Nikolaevich Balin, Chairman of the State Committee for Nature Conservation in the Komi ASSR - "is that the ecological cleanness of the project is guaranteed to the maximum extent possible".

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