

trucks takes several decades to grow back, tractor tracks on permafrost gradually become deep gullies. However, the reality of the situation is such, that the tundra is already threatened by numerous transport routes. The opening up of the enormously rich Bovanenko gas condensate field, the search for new hydrocarbon fuel deposits, the construction of the pipelines and the arrival of tour of duty shift workers' and road construction workers" settlements have turned the Yamai Peninsula into a region of intensive industrialization. How can the environment be protected?

Well now, while the scientists theorize and while the various bodies involved are seeking ways and means of dealing with the situation, the first word on the subject has come from the industrial organizations themselves. The Glavyamburgeneftgazstrol organization, which will be responsible for constructing many more projects of all types in the Yamburg and Yamal regions, has set up an ecological administration, or to put it more accurately, a specialized environmental protection administration.

"So far, we haven't had much experience," your reporter was told by the deputy manager of the "Yamburgspetsgazstroi" Trust, who has been appointed head of the ecological administration. " I suspect that some of our ideas will be wrong. However, I believe that we cannot keep on "conquering" the Yamal region at any price or keep on forcing our way into the virgin tundra, where the balance of nature is so very delicate.

"For the moment we have set up four departments: a scientific and technical department (which will prepare regulatory documentation on the