

be respected as components of the biosphere which affect the earth, the purity of the air, and the life of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. Unfortunately, when the decision to build the Baikal Pulp-and-Paper Complex and similar plants was made, a sound, integrated approach to the environment had not been formulated.

Now that the decision to change the type of production at this complex has been made, it will be enormously beneficial in protecting the environment around Lake Baikal. In talking about its ecological and economic import, however, we should also remember the following. After the Baikal Pulp-and-Paper Complex came on stream it was learned that local wood was not suitable for the production of super-cellulose, i.e. cellulose of a high purity. That is why wood has been supplied to the Baikal Combine from the Khabarovsk and Krasnoyarsk Districts, as well as Chita Oblast for the past 20 years. Apparently, the raw materials for pulp production which is now being transferred to Bratsk and Ust'-Ilimsk, will come from these same districts.

Moreover, it was discovered from a thorough examination of the technology that the water from Lake Baikal was not suitable. Where pure water was essential (during the rinsing stage) Baikal water was unsuitable in its natural form. A special purification process was introduced at the plant and salts were removed from the water by a deionization technique. The new mills will be getting water from the Angara River, which means that it will still be Baikal water.

A lot has been said about reexamining the effluent purification norms. These are supposedly becoming stricter all the time. But to avoid harmful