

Associated With Northern Development, Siberian Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by assuming inspectional or perhaps special administrative and cadastral functions, could become a real defender of the Yamal Peninsula, its peoples and natural resources, its waters and skies and its industrial development.

And finally, our third proposal is that immediately -today- there should be a State-funded interdepartmental evaluation by a commission of experts of the plans for industrial development of northern territories, and most importantly, of the Yamal Peninsula. Minvodka (The Ministry of Reclamation and Water Management) is an unfortunate case in point - how much blame has been heaped upon it in recent years! God forbid that we should defend Minvodka. It is at the centre of so much fuss because its work is there for all to see, and everyone steps over the ditches it digs. Public discontent surrounding Yamal will be a thousand times less than that surrounding Minvodka. What is needed here is not a fuss or hullabaloo, but rather a sound, objective analysis. Our civic and professional conscience forces us to turn our attention to this serious socioeconomic issue.

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