apparatus of humans and animals. It is also impossible to predict unequivocally what the effect would be on the health of humans and on the environment from such large-scale production of BVK. There is a lack of objective evidence from scientific studies concerning the persistence of the protein in cases of accidental release, and no reliable methodology for detecting harmful substances has been developed. In other words, for the time being permission for Minmedbioprom to build the new plant should be withheld. There are already too many "unknowns" about this facility giving rise to legitimate misgivings on the part of the public.

The Oblast Executive Committee agreed with the conclusions of the interdepartmental commission. The ministry was denied permission to locate the protein plant within Nefteyugansk Raion. The residents have at last heaved a sigh of relief.

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