

Vorgashor Miners Vote to Return to Work

On the night of December 1st a joint meeting of workers, the administration, the strike committee and other social organizations of the "Vorgashorskaya" Mine adopted a resolution to end the strike and resume work. Plans call for beginning the mining of coal at midnight on December 2 and returning to a normal production schedule. The decision was taken after a fax was received containing the text of a charter establishing the independence of the "Vorgashorskaya" Mine, as confirmed by M. Shchadov, USSR Minister of the Coal Industry.

As explained to your TASS correspondent by A. Tsurupa, director of economics for the "Vorkutaugol" Corporation, the charter grants the mine full administrative independence, including the right to withdraw from "Vorkutaugol", but obligates the mine to fulfil state production orders, which in this case means supplying coal to customers. This was one of the chief demands of the striking miners. The "Vorgashorskaya" Mine is expected to make the transition to full administrative independence by January 1, 1990.

Today, repairs and preparatory operations are underway at the "Vorgashorskaya", including the run-in of machinery and equipment and the preparation of longwalls.

The remaining mines of the "Vorkutaugol" Corporation are operating normally, but many of them are still being adversely affected by the consequences of the strike now ended. According to reports at the "Vorkutaugol" Corporation, only 5 out of the 12 mines in operation had met the target for the last few days of November.