

This arrogant attitude towards the environment is a "tradition" for managers of "Severonikel". And even if the fact is made public, why should they be worried? The plant's former general manager, G. Yermakov, saved so much on environmental protection that an accident finally occurred. The damage to the environment was estimated at several million roubles.

And what happened to Mr. Yermakov? He was subsequently promoted and transferred to a managerial position in Moscow within the Ministry of Non-Ferrous Metallurgy. And the damage was covered not by him, but by the state treasury.

And while we're talking money ... Apparently Yerkov's successor was also a worthy inheritor of his traditions, established during the stagnant years. There are enough valuable metals in the tailings on the land belonging to the plant to finance the most grandiose environmental protection programs. But apparently the plant's present managers also believe that the environment is the responsibility of some other department. If they have to, they poison it, and then leave it to the residents of Murmansk to rescue at their own personal expense. Maybe they're preparing themselves for a promotion too? And who is going to upset this "tradition," the Ministry of Non-Ferrous Metallurgy, or Soviet power?

Trud

5 May 1989

(Slight abridged)