

in the effluent water from the depot. So, who got the idea that effluent has to be clean? The depot's oil trap is a primitive device, which recalls the invention of pioneer craftsmen. For a float, that is, the oil trap, they use an ordinary wooden cart-shaft!

When there is a light rain, the cart-shaft actually does hold back some of the oil and then they scoop it out with buckets, just like they did in our grandfather's time. However, when there is a heavy rain, the cart-shaft simply isn't able to hold back the current and the oil flows straight into the nearest body of water. They should have had a flotation unit here long ago. But there are no plans for building one even during the next Five-Year planning period!

Things aren't any better at the Smychka electric depot. The May analysis of effluent waters showed that the oil content was five hundred times the normal amount! The Smychka railway station is also making its "contribution" to the environmental pollution problem. Unlike the other enterprises, which operate in the region, even now they don't have sewage and water supply systems. They do have the plans for these systems... drawn up eleven years ago!

If you look at the "Air Pollution" graphs, at first glance the railway workers don't look at all bad. Of the cloud, weighing one and a half tonnes - the amount of dust which falls on the head of a resident of Tagil every year - the railworkers are responsible for only a kilogram.

But, how do the monitoring bodies act under these conditions? A laboratory for monitoring noxious effects in the air was set up more than three