

Naturally, Bratsk's ecological problems will not be totally solved by halting construction of this production facility. Measures taken to improve the ecological situation which has arisen at the Timber Industry Complex and at the aluminum plant are slated to be implemented in the period 1995-2000. The maximum permissible concentrations of the main types of pollutants are expected to be reached by that time. Is such procrastination acceptable? The extent to which pollution will affect the health of the Bratsk population, especially children, is not known because solid research on the subject has not yet been done. The Chairman of the Workers' Council at the timber industry complex, V. Ledyayev, stated at the session that he would be the first to vote for the complex to fund such research. This would be an excellent initiative. The most important thing is to hasten the introduction of environmental protection measures at factories and auxiliary plants. The firm position taken by the Bratsk deputies will promote precisely this.

Lesnaya promyshlennost'

2 August 1988

Page 1 (Slightly abridged)

Translated by the Secretary of State Translation Bureau,
Multilingual Services Division