our core samples it has been possible to explore the geophysics of the Earth with sonic irradiation. You know, in very concise terms this is a re-interpretation of the laws governing the placement of minerals, and in summary the discovery of a large number of new deposits without additional expenditures. And the deposits discovered on the Kola Peninsula alone, with the aid of our input, will completely pay for the ultra-deep borehole.

"The coastal dwellers, for example," continued Vladimir Stepanovich, "panned for gold here many years ago. But this question has been covered several times. They were sure it exists on the peninsula. Today the geologists have mapped the territories of their countries. But this two-dimensional picture should be supplemented with a third coordinate - seismic prospecting or therapy to use the language of the medical people. But it is imprecise. Our drilling resembles a surgical knife, which gives an unambiguous picture. With the help of this true coordinate it is possible to build a model of the Earth's crust, which will be a necessity in the 21st century..."

"There is much talk today about the fact that geologists are burying public funds in the earth and that the ultra-deep borehole is burying them even deeper" I remarked.

"This is primitive thinking" David Mironovich lauths in reply. "In such cases we don't even know how to justify ourselves. It is necessary to do a lot of thinking about this. To close down research on the cosmos and geology, where we currently occupy one of the leading places in the world, would be a crime and an unacceptable luxury. To suspend the ultra-deep drilling program would be to suspend thinking and stop progress. Whereas we are wearing poor trousers today, after five years without geology we would be doing without T-shirts and shorts. This has already happened with computers and satellite communications...