

The protests by the inhabitants of the peninsula based on rumors, emotion and conjecture have become a more serious obstacle in the path of nuclear-powered vessels than the ice and ice hummocks.

The northern inhabitants were and are alarmed by possible radioactive hazards in the area where an icebreaker is operating. They want to know how the movement of a ship with 50 thousand horsepower of thrust will affect the fish stocks of the Yenisey and the state of the wharfs and docks of the port, which was built on permafrost. More and more frequently it is possible to hear demands for the cessation of year-round navigation between Murmansk and Dudinka. And the absence of special nuclear safety services in the Taymyr region is making the local inhabitants more cautious...

What was it that prevented the directors of the Murmansk Maritime Steamship Line last summer from sending a special group of designers, observers, and veteran icebreaker sailors to Dudinka for meetings with the local residents for comprehensive explanatory work? What prevented the steamship line from sending the "Taymyr" to this port for a couple days, so as to give all of the inhabitants an opportunity to go on board? This was not done and as a result - the protest occurred. And then, when the passions had reached their peak and the icebreaker was confronted with a real threat of having to remain at sea, a group of specialists headed by deputy chief of the Murmansk Steamship Line N. Matyushenko arrived in Dudinka. By now the visitors did not merely have to convince the hosts: they had to make them change their minds. And this, naturally, was considerably more difficult.

A. Ponomarenko, a state inspector of the Gospromatomnadzor (State Industrial Nuclear Energy Inspectorate), spent a great deal of time attempting to show that the "Taymyr" conformed to all of the