

situation in Bratsk has already reached critical proportions. The Ministry of the Timber Industry has transformed the Tikhorevka river into a sewage drain for the industrial region. The Ust'-Ilimsk reservoir has been polluted by effluent along a 140-kilometre stretch. Fish in the Bratsk reservoir are perishing on a massive scale. Instead of gradually phasing out the Bratsk Timber Industry Complex, the Ministry asks for an increase in pulp production each year. The Ministry is not used to economizing. The additional sum of more than 100 million roubles was set aside to build purification facilities at the Selenga Pulp and Paperboard Combine, but no-one gave any thought to replacing the worn out and obsolete equipment which was installed more than 30 years ago. The Ministry of the Timber Industry persisted in trying to have the forests in the Kuytun region included in the timber reserves of the second phase of the Ust'-Ilimsk Timber Industry Complex, an inadvisable approach not only from the economic point of view but also in that it would disrupt the economic base of the sparsely populated native regions in the North. The Ministry tends to make its plans without any reference to the richness and composition of the actual resource base. This results in substantial losses to the enterprise, overcutting and in the physical destruction of the forests.

Yu.V. Neelov, President of the Executive Committee of the Surgut Regional Council of People's Deputies, Surgut:

I too have doubts about M.I. Busygin's candidacy. In the summer of 1988, the Perm' Housebuilding Combine (administered by the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry) began to manufacture houses which released a poisonous gas - phenol. These emissions were 500-600 times more concentrated