

Appendix/Anhang 2a

Petition for the Protection of Lake Baikal

On request of Prof. Nadia Stepanova, the following letter addressed to the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, M. M. Kasjanov, was signed by all participants of the conference.

Your Excellence,

We, the participants of the international eco-conference 'Path to Nature's Wisdom: Ecological dialogue Himalaya & Alps' (Schloss Seggau/Leibnitz, Austria – October 9th - 11th, 2002) are in great distress concerning the plans of the oil company Yukos with their intention to construct a main pipe line for gas and oil from the city Angarsk to the Chinese city Dazin. This project is not only threatening the unique eco-system of lake Baikal, holding 20 % of the global sweet water resources and the highest status of world's natural habitat protection by the UNESCO, but this project would have a disastrous effect on the ethnic and cultural environment of the local population. This pipeline is supposed to be constructed through the Taiga regions and through untouched mountain areas of Buryatia. In these regions are situated many ritual monuments and sacred sites of local protection deities and saints. Moreover, the area of lake Baikal is seismographically a sensitive zone where rare species of animals and plants are living. Therefore the global community is concerned.

We appeal to the local government representatives to stop this dangerous project and ask you to take the appropriate measures that this dangerous project of Yukos Company will not be put into action.

The realisation of this project according to the company's plan would disrespect the rights of the local population and violate the UNO convention for the protection of nature and culture.

Signed by all participants of the conference.
Seggau, October 11th, 2002

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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