



Over the last years, the amount of industrial waste in Shchekinoazot reduced by 31%, the emission of harmful substances into the atmosphere reduced by more than 20%, and water consumption fell twofold.



Boris Sokol to Alexander Kozlov: The construction project of the new treatment facilities is currently underway, with the current amount of works completed at 40%.

The Prosecutor of the Tula Region evaluated the environmental conditions at Shchekinoazot

Larisa Timofeeva.
Photo by Alexey Pirayzev.

The Prosecutor of the region, Alexander Kozlov, made a site inspection to check compliance with the environmental legislation of one of the largest companies in the region as part of preparations for the large-scale Environmental Safety of Tula Region forum.

Shchekinoazot was selected for inspection for a reason, as the company is increasing its production facilities, and the processes are associated with a certain impact on the environment, while the treatment plants of the factory treat the wastewater of the residential sector of the Pervomaysky township.

In addition to Alexander Kozlov, the deputy head of the directorate for enforcement of the federal legislation Inna Prokhorova also visited the company,



Alexander Kozlov

acting prosecutor of Shchekino Evgeny Tsurbanov, head of the unit for state environmental supervision

of Rosprirodnadzor directorate for Tula Region Valentina Merkel, head of the Unit for regional state environmental supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Tula Region Marina Fedorova.

The guests visited the industrial hydrogen and methanol plant sites of Shchekinoazot, where currently new treatment facilities and a combined plant for methanol and ammonia production are being built, as well as the hall of fame of the company.

The president of the company Boris Sokol spoke about innovations that enable the company to develop and maintain its leadership positions on the chemical market in Russia without increasing, and in fact decreasing, the environmental burden.

"Existing warehouses and production facilities are being re-equipped and reconstructed, new modern complexes are being opened that operate according to the highest environmental standards, and a new environmental protection measure program is being implemented," Boris Sokol says.



Boris Sokol

during the past 5 years, the company spent over RUB 300M. The new environmental protection program for 2017-2021 has already been developed."

The guests were highly interested in the construction of new treatment facilities, which are expected to be much more efficient than what is currently in operation. The amount of investments in the project totals RUB 600M. The construction is ongoing, and the commissioning of the new treatment facilities is planned for 2018.

"These modern treatment facilities will usher in an era of completely new levels of water treatment, with capacities of 1,200 cubic meters per hour," Boris Sokol shared. "The old treatment facilities will remain operational, as they are used for the treatment of domestic waste water in Shchekino and Pervomaysky. After the commissioning of the new facilities, the old ones will be reconstructed. In the end, there will be two operational treatment systems."

Andrey Kozlov inquired whether the supervisory authorities had already checked the facilities.

"This project is controlled by us," said Valentina Merkel, head of the unit for the state environmental supervision of Rosprirodnadzor directorate for Tula Region.

"Scheduled inspection at Shchekinoazot was held in 2013, and the next will take place in November 2017. There was a problem in the company, storm water was being discharged into the Degotnyya river. Luckily, now

"The environmental section is an obligatory part of the company's development strategy. For the implementation of environmental measures

the issue of wastewater treatment will be fully settled."

The project underwent state expertise, in accordance with which equipment is purchased, and all information is provided on the pace of work performance.

The company has obtained all permission documents.

"Treatment facilities provide for the return of at least 80% of treated waste water for

water circulation cycles, which will reduce

consumption of river water by 6M cubic meters a year, and the discharge of contaminants in the water bodies of the region by 5.5 thousand tons a year,"

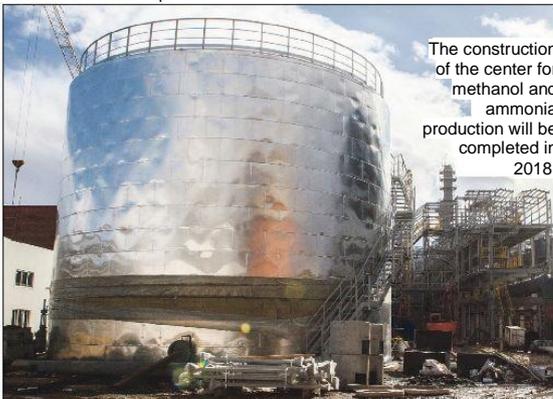
added Valery Ordynets, deputy technical director for industrial and environmental safety.

The main goals of the new treatment facilities are as follows:

- ▶ Wastewater treatment.
- ▶ Use of modern technologies and more energy-efficient equipment in the process scheme.
- ▶ Return of the majority of treated wastewater to feed the water circulation cycles of the company.
- ▶ Reduction of the negative impact on the environment due to a reduction in the amount of contaminating substance discharge and river water consumption.
- ▶ Exclusion of the risk of wastewater discharge to the water body as a result of potential emergency failures.
- ▶ The development plan of the company is to use the new treatment facilities to treat the new industrial wastewater of the company.
- ▶ Establishment of new jobs.



Valery Ordynets



The construction of the center for methanol and ammonia production will be completed in 2018.



Valentina Merkel

A detailed discussion took place in the meeting room about the measures the company is currently taking to ensure the environmental well-being of the region.

Today, responsible industrial companies, prosecutor offices, and authorities all share the goals of settling economic issues and ensuring the protection of the environment. This is the belief of Shchekinoazot, and the main principal behind the company's development. This approach defines the well-being of countries and humankind in general, as well as every citizen. The development of industrial facilities shall only be ensured in line with the development of environmental protection technologies.

The company operates with the use of Danish technologies by Haldor Topsoe, a world-renowned licensor. Topsoe's optimal and reliable solutions are used all over the world, and contribute to the improvement of the quality of life and the environment...

Alexander Kozlov posed a question about the economic reasonableness of use of environmental measures, and how much of a stake the companies have in them. Boris Sokol explained that these are interconnected processes. Companies hold stakes in the implementation of modern clean processes and close cycles, minimization of waste, and the deep processing of raw materials. Modern complexes are hi-tech, economically efficient, and require much less energy consumption.

The prosecutor and distinguished guests positively assessed the company's efforts and measures taken to maintain environmental balance in the region, build a modern model of industrial development, and organize technological processes.

Alexander Kozlov noted that Shchekinoazot tries jointly with the representatives of authorities and the authorities responsible for environmental protection to arrive at a common understanding of how to settle regional issues, along with the establishment of favorable conditions for environmental protection.

The prosecutor also made an entry in the book of honorable guests of the company.