

Russian Space Agency Starts Paying Compensation for Environmental Damage

This has nothing to do with anything nuclear ... this involved only physical pieces of rockets

MosNews (ITAR-TASS)
February 15, 2006

The Russian Space Agency has started making payments to Russia's Altai region to compensate for environmental damage caused by rocket launches from the Baikonur Space Center.

The head of the agency's main directorate for social protection of the population and consequences of nuclear tests, Sergei Dikarev, said the territory would receive about 1,200 million rubles (\$42,500) for the launches conducted in December 2005 alone, according to ITAR-TASS.

"This money is intended for health protection and improvement of the environmental situation in Tretyakovskiy, Charyshskiy and Zmeinogorskiy districts on whose territory the jettisoned rocket parts are falling," Dikarev said.

In line with the agreement between the Russian Space Agency and the territory administration signed in December 2005, these districts will receive 310,000 to 312,000 rubles to their budgets in compensation for each space launch. Up to 15 launches are conducted every year.