Access to the Territories of Traditional Nature Use: Mobility of Local Communities in the Conditions of Industrial Development*

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The problem of access to the territories of nature use is particularly relevant in areas where indigenous people engaged in traditional nature use have to interact with industrial companies. This interaction can lead to contestation between indigenous peoples and industrial companies due to differences in the perception of transport accessibility by both groups of stakeholders. This paper focuses on the case of Yakutia and addresses the following questions: To what extent do industrial companies build and improve roads in areas where indigenous peoples live, and in cases where this takes place, what are the motivations for these companies? Are indigenous peoples able to maintain access to territories of traditional nature use, when their access passes through the roads constructed by industrial companies? What role do informal roads play in the lives of indigenous people? And finally, do differences in lifestyles affect perception of remoteness?

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