Dear Dr. Boyd,

with the publication of the Environmental Geochemical Atlas of the Central Barents Region, published by the Geological Survey of Norway an important contribution has been made to the knowledge of the very sparcely investigated European Arctic. The hard work which was done to provide this comprehensive and consistent data set to the community is very much appreciated.

I would like to introduce you to the ESF programme QUEEN (Quaternary Environment of the Eurasian North) which carries out geoscientific and environmental research by various institutes in the high northern latitudes to investigate the marine and terrestrial changes of the northern Eurasian continents and seas during the late Quaternary. The groups at AWI, doing research in the adjacent shelf seas, found the data in particular helpful for the interpretation of the geochemical composition of the sediments.

The AWI is operating the information system PANGAEA, which is aimed at archiving data from environmental and geoscientific research. The system is designed as a network to provide data on the Internet to the scientific community. All data are closely linked to any required meta-information. A longterm operation of the system is ensured.
Based on some request of participating scientists in QUEEN and on a discussion between the first author Clemens Reimann and one of our data managers, we discussed the possibility to include the analytical data of the Kola-Atlas in PANGAEA. The system would be able to archive the data and make them available on the Internet in any required view, even with a password protection. Technical details can be discussed with the coordinator of the QUEEN project and the PANGAEA system Dr. Hannes Grobe.

We think, the chance of making the data of the atlas available to the international community would even enlarge the value of your remarkable work.

With best regards,

Jörn Thiede

cc/ Dr. H. Bauch, Secr. Queen
KOLA ECOGEOCHEMISTRY DATA

Dear Professor Thiede

Many thanks for your letter dated October 11th. I regret the delay in replying, due to my absence in Africa for most of October.

We are happy to approve the inclusion of data from the Kola Ecogeochemistry project in PANGEA but must discuss the matter with our partners in Finland and Russia: this will be done next week at a meeting in St. Petersburg and we don’t anticipate that they will object. We will contact you again after the meeting. I’m sure Dr. Reimann will be able to arrange the appropriate solutions for implementing transfer of the data once we have approval from our partners.

We would also be interested in an exchange of views on the potential for co-operation between our organisations in other projects in the Arctic.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Rognvald Boyd
Division director

Copy: Clemens Reimann
KOLA PROJECT DATA

Dear Dr. Thiede,

The Kola Project data are now transferred to PANGAEA and have passed the necessary quality checks. From our side the data can thus be made publicly available on the Internett.

Best regards,

Rognvald Boyd
Programme Manager

Trondheim, 30 October 2000

Clemens Reimann
Senior Scientist