

**From:** [Randy Hillman](#)  
**To:** [Sam Owen](#); [Tony Izzo - MEA CEO](#); [Frank Adams - MEA](#); [Bill Kendig](#); [Dan Tucker - MEA Board - LEPC](#)  
**Cc:** [Shelley Hughes - State Senator - Palmer](#); [Mike Shower - State Senator](#); [Jesse Sumner - Alaska State Rep](#); [George Rauscher - State Representative](#); [Kevin McCabe - State Representative Big Lake](#); [Cathy Tilton - State Representative Dist 12](#); [Ben Carpenter - State Representative - Dist 8 Anchorage](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Regarding Removal of the Eklutna Hydroelectric & Water Dam  
**Date:** Saturday, January 13, 2024 6:35:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [Public Comment -Eklutna HydroElectric Dam Removal - JAN 2024.doc](#)

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**Public Comment Regarding Removal of the Eklutna Hydroelectric & Water Dam  
by Fr. Randy Hillman, MEA Member and members of  
Valley Anglican Fellowship Church who are also MEA members.**

**January 16, 2024**

**To: Whom it may concern: Mr. Tony Izzo, MEA CEO, and other MEA Board Members**

**First, thank you, Mr. Izzo, for allowing the MEA members to express our opinions on the Removal of Eklutna Hydroelectric and Water Dam (Eklutna Dam) via email, [info@Eklutnahydro.com](mailto:info@Eklutnahydro.com) ,**

**Mr. Izzo and fellow MEA Board members, a long time ago I was in Nuclear Physics and worked with radioactive materials and NBC warfare in the US Navy. I am also speaking with input from the church members. That being said, I cannot see how the Removal of the Eklutna Dam will help improve anything or anyone . To the contrary, the Removal will also cause more harm to the Environment in many ways; as well as, the discussion on the replacement of the electric power and a water source to the growing water needs of the largest city in Alaska, Anchorage.**

**Let us discuss the many ways the destruction of the Eklutna Dam harms the Environment.**

- 1. Where will MEA and Chugach Electric Association replace this renewable, carbon zero, scalable base load power? The Wind Turbines on Fire Island are not working and are being subsidized by the members at an additional cost for no value. They kill birds! Microreactors (Nuclear) Power plants are not available now and nor will they be available in the near future. See the Department Of Energy's December 13, 2023, report.**
- 2. The Carbon Dioxide generated from the equipment to remove Eklutna Dam is how much? It's definitely not "Net Zero", as it is now.**
- 3. The Environmental impact from the waste from the removed concrete, which in itself has a great deal of Carbon from the manufacturing to the installation of the Eklutna**

**Dam's concrete.**

- 4. Where will the old removed concrete be placed? Again, Carbon Dioxide will be emitted from the destroyed Eklutna Dam's wasted/old concrete.**
- 5. Are there any material(s) that are Environmental Hazards that you know for a fact are not in Eklutna Dam? If so, what kind of workers' Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) will be used, and what kind of Environment Abatement will be used? Can the people and property be safeguarded from any downwind emissions of Hazardous particulates?**
- 6. Environmental Hazardous waste will be transported to and stored where? What will be the cost now and the cost for future storage?**

**Now, let us discuss the Impact on the Loss of a Clean, Renewable, Carbon Zero and Scalable Base Load Electricity on the Mat-Su.**

- 1. The Loss of this Clean, Renewable, Carbon Zero and Scalable Base Load Electricity in the Mat-Su will impact Every Citizen (approximately 125,000 people) from Student Education to the Pumping of Water to survive and everywhere in between.**
- 2. The Loss of this Clean, Renewable, Carbon Zero and Scalable Base Load Electricity will impact every Citizen multiple times from the Rising Costs of Electricity that we personally use as well the additional retail costs that will be passed on to the consumers as the cost of doing business.**
- 3. What does the MEA Board have planned to replace the Loss of Eklutna Dam's Electricity when additional Electricity will be needed for the growing Mat-Su area that is Clean, Renewable, Carbon Zero and Scalable Base Load Electricity before Eklutna Dam is removed so there isn't any Electrical Power disruption?**
- 4. As MEA members, how much monetary Refunds should we expect (not in future power credits) from Electric power disruptions as Mat-Su Citizens, Retail Users, Both Routine**

**and Emergency Communications from the Loss of Eklutna Dam's Electric Power?**

## **In Conclusion**

**I do not believe it would be in the best interest of any MEA members to Remove the Eklutna Dam.**

**Even though the "Environmentalists" do not consider Dams as a part of Carbon Reduction or Renewable Energy, where it truly is.**

**However, as a MEA member, I believe that Eklutna Dam should be upgraded so that the Dam could withstand and/or resist an Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) and be able to have the ability to provide Electrical power within a short time period which may or may not affect National Defense (see Oak Ridge National Laboratories, appendix on HEMP/EMPs & the EMP Commission of Pres. Obama administration). The new modification should include a Fish Ladder for the migration of Fish.**

**Further, as a MEA member, I recommend that the MEA Board revisit building the Susitna River Dam project because of the ongoing issues in providing Clean, Carbon Zero, Renewable, Scalable Base Load Electric Energy, and design it also to withstand or be resistant to an HEMP/EMP. The Susitna Dam should include in its design a Fish Ladder for the migration of Fish. The construction of the Susitna Dam would supply around or more than 300 MWs of Electrical Energy depending on what capacity the utility-scale electric power generators are operated.**

**Respectively Submitted,**

*Fr Randy Hillman*