

**From:** [C Smith](#)  
**To:** [Sam Owen](#)  
**Subject:** Eklutna Lake Dam  
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As a 73-year-old white woman who has lived a life of 'white' privilege, I wholeheartedly urge you to remove the Eklutna Lake Dam. By doing so, you will be helping to re-establish a slowly vanishing culture in a small native village. Haven't the native peoples of North America suffered enough at the hands of 'white' people over the past centuries?

Give them the respect they deserve and their culture back. Help them to re-establish the salmon run and therefore bring back the cultural side of people gathering to harvest nature. Listen to their desires and needs - they were here long before man moved in to try to 'civilize' them. Help them to keep their culture strong by removing the dam.

I am 2nd generation American, a descendant of Lebanese people who moved here at the turn of the 20th century. My biggest regret is that I was not immersed in my culture to the degree that I was able to pass more of it along to my children and grandchildren.

Cheap renewable energy for 25,000 Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Borough homes for decades? They will survive despite the increased cost. I'd hate to tell you what I pay GVEA for their power.

The natives were here long before the 'white' man. Give them their culture back.

Respect and support native pride!

Sincerely,  
Candace Smith  
Salcha, Alaska