From: <u>christyeverett.personal@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Christine Everett</u>

To: Sam Owen

Subject: The Eklutna River Draft Fish and Wildlife Program is inadequate!

Date: Friday, January 26, 2024 4:13:35 PM

Dear Owners of The Eklutna Hydroelectric Project,

This comment is in regard to the Eklutna Hydroelectric Project's Draft Fish and Wildlife Program for the Eklutna River. The Native Village of Eklutna's vision for river restoration should be supported. Removal of the Eklutna Lake Dam is necessary to fully reconnect the river and return the water flows needed to support the river's fisheries. I urge you to consider removing this dam within the next decade, once replacement renewable energy is available.

The current proposal does not provide fish passage into the lake and upstream habitat. The river's historic salmon runs will never return under this plan. Approximately a mile of the river will remain dry and very little of the historic flow will be restored. You have a legal duty to mitigate the harm of this project. This proposal does not achieve that.

Please consider removing the Eklutna Dam so that all five species of salmon can once again return to the river.

Sincerely, Christine Everett 2308 Robinson Cir North Pole, AK 99705-6269 christyeverett.personal@gmail.com