

From: [Alex Petkanas](#)
To: [Sam Owen](#)
Subject: Eklutna Comment
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024 2:50:46 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am a homeowner and Chugach Electric member-owner in the Municipality of Anchorage. I am writing in my personal capacity today to support the Native Village of Eklutna's goal of restoring the river and full water flows to support salmon and other species - specifically through adoption of a plan that ends with complete dam removal.

The current proposed mitigation plan does not go far enough, fails to provide for fish passage into the lake and upstream habitat, does not have the support of the public, and would only release 3% of historic water flows.

Dam removal, in the alternative, would meet the recommendations of biologists from USFWS, NMFS, and NVE. It would begin to address a century of cultural and environmental neglect in this region, and be a step toward greater recognition of tribal sovereignty. While dam removal cannot happen overnight, it is possible and essential to adopt a plan that allows for onboarding of new renewable energy projects.

I urge you to strongly consider dam removal, and if necessary, to take additional time to do a full analysis of how to best meet the needs of NVE and the Owners of the project.

Sincerely,
Alex Petkanas