

From: [Gabrielle Markel](#)
To: [Sam Owen](#)
Subject: Eklutna Public Comment
Date: Friday, February 16, 2024 1:54:52 PM

Hello,

I am a ratepayer of Chugach Electric living in Anchorage and I am writing you to voice my support for the Community Alternative put forth by the Native Village of Eklutna.

As a ratepayer, I have no interest in paying for a 57 million dollar project that will not *meaningfully* restore the river. The current plan put forth in the Draft Fish and Wildlife Program, with the flow being restored below the AWWU portal valve, seems like an expensive bandaid that does not meet the asks of the Native Village of Eklutna to have this watershed fully restored, and so sounds like a waste of money to me.

I support their desire to have the Eklutna Dam completely removed at a later date, once replacement renewable energy is available to replace the hydro we get from Eklutna. The Eklutna river is a community asset not only to the Eklutna Tribe, but to Southcentral Alaska residents as a whole, and our utilities and municipality, have a responsibility to act as community stewards. Please work toward a *real* solution - I am fine with the necessary rate hike that will accompany a project of this size as long as it will lead to true restoration of this important watershed and the cultural implications it carries.

Thanks for you time,

Gabrielle Markel
Anchorage Resident