

**From:** [Bruce Jaffa](#)  
**To:** [Sam Owen](#)  
**Subject:** Continued Service of Eklutna Lake System  
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I support the continued use of the Eklutna Lake System to support the population of South Central Alaska. I am familiar with the entire system including the upper lake area, powerplant, and public water system. The Hydroelectric plant is a stable, cost effective, low impact source of power for Railbelt customers. The plant was built to high standards, is well maintained and operated. Similar to other Alaska hydroelectric plants including Bradley, Terror Lake, Swan Lake, Snettisham etc. the Eklutna plant is fully amortised and operating expenses are extremely low. Compared to other planned or imagined alternative energy, this plant has 24/7 dependability.

The mitigation of previous structures downstream of the dam has nearly completely restored the river to a wild and traditional condition. This is similar to restoration of other creeks and rivers throughout the State.

There is obviously an impact by any structure and Eklutna Lake impoundment, does change some fish habitat. The species that habitate the lower River can return while the lower grade Salmon that might have used the upper reaches will not. All civilizations make trade offs. Other impacts in this area include the Power lines, the Glen Highway, the AKRR and more. I am sensitive to the individuals or groups that are most directly affected but the mitigation offered appears reasonable, providing continued benefits to all users of electricity in the distribution area of the owner utilities. In this case the potential cure is worse than the problem.

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