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**Subject:** Public comment on the Eklutna Hydroelectric Project  
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Hello,

I am against the removal of the Eklutna Dam.

Most of you claim to be very concerned about the environment and our carbon footprint and are pushing the Green New Deal and the Climate Change agenda. And yet you are planning to remove the Eklutna Dam, a source of power that is both clean, renewable, has no carbon footprint, and supplies almost 50MW of electricity in the rail belt as well as most of the drinking water for Anchorage and vicinity. Not only is it hypocritical to be pushing for renewable, clean energy and reduction of our carbon footprint and at the same time destroying clean, renewable, non-CO2-producing energy production. And by the way, solar panels get covered with snow (by now they would all be buried in the snow, not just covered) and wind turbines freeze, so neither one are reliable replacements.

Here are some facts from your own presentation.

# Eklutna Hydroelectric Project

Owned and operated by Chugach Electric, Matanuska Electric, and the Municipality of Anchorage.

Provides 24% of Chugach's renewable energy, and 45% of MEA's renewable energy.

Offsets approximately 86,000 tons of carbon each year.

Lowest-cost energy in Southcentral Alaska.

Could be used to regulate other future renewables like wind and solar.



Hydropower has been generating clean, renewable electricity for over 100 years, providing almost 7% of the US' electricity and 40% of renewable energy. It has enormous growth potential to power more homes, schools, and businesses. Hydropower plants can provide power to the grid immediately, serving as a flexible and reliable form of backup power during major electricity outages or disruptions. It also produces a number of benefits outside of electricity generation, such as flood control, irrigation support, and water supply.

Instead of spending an untold amount of money on the destruction of the dam and then on the building of other sources of electricity and drinking water yet to be determined, maybe your focus should be on spending the money on a way for the fish around the dam. Here is a place to start: *The NOAA Fisheries Hydropower Program works with partners including other federal agencies, industry, states, non-governmental organizations, and Tribes to identify and implement solutions to reopen rivers to migratory fish while preserving hydropower generation. With more than 1,000 hydropower dams licensed by*

*the [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission](#) (FERC), NOAA Fisheries is busy keeping up with the demand to upgrade the nation's hydropower infrastructure to meet today's environmental standards.*

Irene Quednow