

From: [Nelli Williams](#)
To: [Sam Owen](#)
Subject: Eklutna comment
Date: Monday, February 19, 2024 9:57:47 PM

I live in Anchorage and am a Chugach Electric Association rate payer. Our family are avid outdoor adventurers, anglers, and hikers and the Eklutna area is one of our favorite places to play within an easy drive of Anchorage.

I have been following this issue closely for many years and am disappointed in the owner's draft fish and wildlife program. It doesn't meet the terms they agreed to in 1991, and spends millions of dollars without meaningfully helping salmon, an important local river and many, many families.

There has been a lot of scientific input that has been ignored thus far. I encourage the owners to go back to the drawing board and put for a plan that's based on science, upholds the vision of NVE and makes a meaningful attempt to bring back the salmon runs that have been severely impacted by this project.

We have a once in a generation to restore a river that all Alaskans can be proud of...right now we are simply heading down a path to throw good money after a bad, inadequate idea (the AWUU portal option).

I support the idea that NVE, TU others have brought forward - removing the dam. While there are still questions that need to be answered, there have been numerous successful dam removal projects all over the country. While complex, dam removal is doable and likely our strongest return on investment. Removing the dam is also very likely the most cost effective with the community partners that have stepped forward to help with that effort. The utilities current proposal is a short cut to a dead river, continues to short-change the Native village of Eklutna, and doesn't make a whole lot of economic or logistical sense. Let's work on a creative forward-looking solution that gets us to the salmon-filled future that Alaskans want. We can do better.

Sincerely,

Nelli Williams

Anchorage, AK