

**From:** [Riley Creed](#)  
**To:** [Sam Owen](#)  
**Subject:** Eklutna Dam Removal Proposal  
**Date:** Monday, February 19, 2024 3:05:50 PM

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Good afternoon,

I'm writing as an life long Anchorage resident to strongly discourage the removal of the Eklutna dam.

I was born in Anchorage in 1993 at Providence hospital. I've spent every year since growing and thriving in Alaska. I love Anchorage. I love Alaska. But I hate the route we're going to take if we cut ourselves off at the knees.

But why bother this only generates six percent of the energy?

Every little bit helps. Alaskan's rely upon ourselves. We make it work. We do our best. We strive to make a living in one of the roughest places on earth.

We've already let outside sources halt further oil production. We have representatives of our state calling to ship oil and natural gas in to supply instead of opening new wells.

Why remove something that aids both Anchorage and the Matsu on the hope it could return salmon? That's just it. It's a hope. None of the published consultations prove this would be beneficial let alone believable.

Why make Alaska worse? Why make Anchorage worse? We're already dealing with an Assembly that won't work with others or in Anchorage's best interests. Spiking crime, high cost of living, lack of residential housing, and low employment rates.

It's like they want people to leave. I love Alaska. But I've watched all but one of my college mates leave state for better opportunities. I have family leaving state because it's too expensive to live and retire here.

I hate to think this but in the back of my mind I wonder when I'll have to leave. I want to grow old here. I want my career to flourish and this state to be great again. I want that for future generations as well. But right now I don't see that happening.

And this is another drop in the bucket in Alaska's slow death.

Thank you for your time,

Riley Creed