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The plan recently released by the utility companies falls far short of what was envisioned in the transfer of the Eklutna power project in requiring an abatement plan for the adverse impacts caused by the damming of the Eklutna River. The plan which would leave a mile of the upper river dry below the lake dam doesn't come close to addressing the need for the restoration of the historic salmon resources of the river and the lake.

Most recently the Anchorage Assembly has called for a halt to this plan and much more thorough and comprehensive study of the impacts on municipal drinking water, the fishery, all viable options, and other issues. In light of the apparent self-serving analysis by the utility companies, this seems like a prudent approach at this point. While the lake provides power and water to our community, there are other valuable resources inherent in a free-flowing river that merit full consideration and protection.

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