

From: [Robin Smith](#)
To: [Sam Owen](#)
Subject: Public comments on Eklutna Dam/hydroproject
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I have to agree with the Anchorage Assembly. This critical project is not ready to move forward. The "Utilities" need to step back.

This is a complex project with multiple conflicting interests. Such projects never get the news coverage needed to activate citizens. TV & news coverage often occurs after the meeting has been held. The reporting is about the meeting, not trying to turnout the community. I care about my community. I pay attention to the news. I am concerned about clean energy. But this issue has not broken through all the "noise" of our life (war, BSA, lost money from the feds, divisive politics, etc.).

I also admit it is not clear to me how the portal will work or what other options we have. The portal doesn't seem to have been tested adequately. It can totally shut off water to the river if it needs to be repaired. Also the portal does not allow fish to return to Eklutna Lake.

The proposed plan offered by Chugach Electric and the other utility owners does not meet the commitment they signed on to.

I believe each utility is acting in its own best short-term interest rather than the overall interest of both human and wildlife.

The utilities purchased the Eklutna dam, undoubtedly for a reduced price. The contract committed the new owners "to protect, mitigate damages to, and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by the original federal Hydroelectric Project." The utilities don't seem to be living up to their commitment.

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