



NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA

April 9, 2024

Ms. Samantha Owen
McMillen Inc.

RE: NVE Response to Draft Final Eklutna Fish and Wildlife Program

Dear Ms. Owen,

Thank you for providing the Native Village of Eklutna with the opportunity to review the Draft Final Fish and Wildlife Program.

We have prepared the following proposal in response to the Draft Final Program. The centerpieces of our proposal are:

1. An alternative Eklutna River Release Facility to take the place of the AWWU Portal and
2. A limited re-opener of the 1991 Agreement for the eventual removal of the Eklutna Lake Dam or development of other fish passage and flow release solutions.

We include a description of the engineering drawings for the supplemental siphon pump alternate Eklutna River Release Facility here. We believe this new proposal for a siphon pump is the best compromise to protect Anchorage's water supply and provide interim water the full length of the Eklutna River. We will support any alternatives that support agencies' resource goals that are also party to the 1991 agreement, fully restore fish passage, and release adequate flows.

Please also find enclosed a legal memorandum from the Water and Power Law Group outlining the feasibility and mechanics of extending the 1991 Agreement, should that be necessary.

We are hopeful the salmon return to us – tiq'a nagh qinqtudel,

Aaron Leggett

Aaron Leggett, President

Attachments: Principles and Core Components; Potential amendment to the 1991 agreement; Siphon Pump Alternative

Cc:

- Arthur Miller, CEA
- Tony Izzo, MEA
- Chris Constant, MOA
- Meg Zaletel, MOA
- Raina Thiele, DOI
- Ron Benkert, ADFG
- Sara Boario, FWS
- Jennifer Spegon, FWS
- Jon Kurland, NMFS
- Sean McDermott, NMFS