

Agreement reached on Eklutna Project

The Municipality of Anchorage and Eklutna Incorporated have negotiated an agreement which will assure the completion of the Eklutna Water Project.

"The efforts of the Native corporation have made a large contribution to the success of the Eklutna Water Project," said Mayor Tony Knowles. "This agreement demonstrates the mutual benefits which can result when governments and private organizations work together in a spirit of cooperation."

Through cooperative negotiations, the Municipality of Anchorage has received fee simple title of 50 acres in Eklutna valley, which will be the site of the Eklutna Water Treatment Facility. Also purchased by the Municipality are 16 miles of easements needed for portions of the P-2, P-3 and P-4 segments of the pipeline from Eagle River into Eklutna River Valley. Part of the

easement dedication will be used for paved road in Eklutna Valley to the treatment facility.

Eklutna Inc., will receive \$541,000 for the treatment facility site and \$48,936 for easements. Also, as part of the agreement, trees cleared from the easements and the Eklutna Water Treatment Facility site will be stacked in specified locations, accessible for village corporation shareholders. The wood will be available for Eklutna Shareholders to use and to sell as firewood and for carving purposes.

Construction of the Eklutna Water Project will provide an abundant water supply to the residents of the Municipality and also offer provisions needed for the completion of other services to previously unserved areas. Turnouts and fire hydrants, along the water line, will provide safe drinking water and fire protection

to consumers between Eklutna Village and the Anchorage Bowl. Electricity, natural gas and telephone service will be installed along the pipeline route as deemed necessary for the project's operation and maintenance. These improvements will enhance existing residences, businesses and public facilities, as well as the future development of properties in the surrounding area.

Design and construction of the Eklutna Water Project is continuing on schedule with completion in 1988. The estimated total cost of the project is \$190 million, a reduction of \$30 million from the original estimate of \$220 million. Funding for the project comes from state legislative appropriations and future bond sales. A \$50 million appropriation from the legislature is being sought for the coming year.