



Engineering and Public Works Department
155 Heritage Way
Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-0800

DATE: April 15, 2024
TO: Wade Bryson, Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee
THROUGH: Denise Koch, Director of Engineering and Public Works
FROM: Brian McGuire, Utility Superintendent and Chad P. Gubala, Ph.D., Utilities Plant & Treatment Manager
SUBJECT: Utility Water Production and Distribution Plan during the AEL&P Salmon Creek Penstock Replacement Program

In September of 2023, AEL&P informed CBJ of its plan to replace the upper penstock beneath the Salmon Creek Dam starting in 2025 (Salmon Creek and Annex Creek Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2307) – Upper Salmon Creek Penstock Replacement). AEL&P indicated that their project would last three years (2025 – 2027) and require 3 months per year of cessation of water flow in April, May, and June of each year.

The CBJ Utility has primary water rights to extract water from the AEL&P tailrace for use as a raw water supply to the Salmon Creek filtration plant and subsequent use for potable water and fire suppression for the Mendenhall Valley and 'Out the Road.' Approximately one third (1/3) of CBJ's water comes from the Salmon Creek catchment and processing facility. DIPAC also has Salmon Creek tailrace water rights subordinate to CBJ's and uses the balance of tailrace discharge for operations and maintenance of their facility.

Under normal conditions, CBJ can produce enough raw water in the Last Chance Basin to provide water for drinking and fire suppression for the entire community. In response to the planned raw water outages at Salmon Creek for the next three years, the CBJ Utility has developed and will continue to refine contingencies and an adaptive management approach to ensure that we maintain potable water services during the AEL&P construction on the Salmon Creek Dam penstock. For a full list of preventative measures, see the attachment. The CBJ Utility, AEL&P, and DIPAC have maintained consistent communication about the planned construction.

Attachment: CBJ 2025-2027 Potable Water Contingency Plan