



Terminal Radio, Inc.
Prince William Sound and the Copper River Basin

KCHU KXKM KXGA

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Dear Governor Sarah Palin,

I'm writing you in defense of Terminal Radio, Inc.'s request for \$43,000 in this year's capital budget.

Part of the money will be used for immediate improvements to the signals that cover Prince William Sound and the Copper River Basin. Currently, critical equipment is missing that will send out a better quality signal. This will not only makes it easier to hear KCHU, but will allow important messages to come through crystal clear to the residents who depend on the radio.

The major use for this money, however, will be for an engineering study to guide us in filling out the coverage area. Currently, there are a few communities that are unable to pick up any radio or TV signal. Our goal is to establish a plan so that everyone can have access to radio, and the information associated with it.

There have many disasters in our broadcast areas, both major and minor. I don't need to tell you the need for good communication during disasters such as the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. We all hope nothing like that will happen again, but if it did, KCHU would be a central point of emergency information. If something were to happen to the lower third of the Trans Alaska Pipeline, we again would be a critical distribution point of information.

We are working with local organizations to help maximize our emergency response. As a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, I work with local government and businesses to plan for emergencies. And, communication is a major factor in those plans. Back-up generators have been installed at the studio and the main transmitter.

In the Copper Basin area, where law enforcement is sparse, we have started conversations about developing a Community Watch Program, where local residents would help State Troopers to solve crimes. Broadcasting information on KCHU is part of that plan, the broader the coverage area, the more effective messages about safety can be.

Fishing and other marine transport are common in Prince William Sound, and come with danger. KCHU regularly broadcasts safety messages, often times dealing with weather, but it may be the only way for the captains to know what is happening on the water.

Many of these are basic services that our listeners depend on. We want to make sure that everyone can hear important public safety messages.

Not as critical, but still very important, is the dissemination of information. It is important that citizens have certain knowledge of what their government is doing. KCHU works hard at gathering the information and presenting it in a fair and unbiased way. Whether it's news of the legislature, avalanche danger, or safety training, important news is disseminated every day.

Thank you again for considering this funding request. It is the needed step in making a safer and better educated Prince William Sound and Copper River Basin.

Danny Sparrell
General Manager
Terminal Radio, Inc.