



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
Office of Emergency Management

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MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR

March 2, 2016

Dave Anderson, General Manager
Kachemack Bay Broadcasting
Homer, AK 99635

RE: Support for Continued Funding of KBBI and KDLL Public Radio

I am providing this letter in support of efforts by KBBI and KDLL to obtain continued funding support from the State of Alaska.

The proposed cuts of up to 100% to Alaska public broadcasting will cause irreparable harm to the services these stations and other Alaska stations provide to communities of all sizes.

My support is in recognition of how seriously KBBI considers their service during emergencies and natural disasters. Residents in every corner of the Kenai Peninsula Borough including the Kachemak Bay area, communities on both sides of Cook Inlet and the west side of Kodiak Island benefit from broadcasts of emergency messages and critical information in times of disaster. The stations have assisted in providing vital information during wildfire, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding, and tsunami emergencies, including the January 2016 earthquake, Funny River fire (2014), Caribou Hills fire (2007) Tracy Avenue fire (2004), the St. Augustine volcano (2006) and Redoubt volcano (2009) eruptions, with regular reports on wind direction and ash fall and steps to protect homes and businesses.

KBBI's ability to simulcast broadcasts to KDLL listeners has been an important information avenue for a number of emergency situations.

KBBI is a participant in broadcasting Emergency Alert System information, which is critical to our Coastal communities, often the only way some citizens can get critical disaster or emergency information.

Respectfully,

Scott Walden, Director
Kenai Peninsula Borough
Office of Emergency Management