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Governor Neil Abercrombie, Senator Gil Kahele and Hawaii State Civil Defense approve a \$76K grant for KAHU 91.7 FM to expand broadcast services for the entire Ka'u District and just beyond

Pahala, Hawaii - September 21, 2011 - Ka'u Community Radio (KAHU 91.7 FM) announces that it has received funding of \$76,405.00 from a grant made effective August 31, 2011 approved by State of Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie and expedited through channels by Senator Gil Kahele and Hawaii State Civil Defense in order to move the station's transmitter and antenna 1,000 vertical feet up to a nearby mountain in Na'alehu, above Pahala and the District of Ka'u. This grant comes outside of already awarded assistance from County Civil Defense of Hilo who announced today that the County would pay for the hard-wiring of the station to be one of three on Hawaii island to receive emergency alert broadcasts straight from the CCD office as opposed to the mp3 files currently e-mailed to stations alerting of impending dangers, which only further ensures resident safety.

With KAHU 91.7 FM having only been on the air since June 28, 2010, the fact that it is a community radio station funded solely through grants, donations and community support, and with its affiliations to the National Federation of Community Broadcasters and Native Public Media as the only Native Hawaiian owned and operated station in the United States, KAHU 91.7 FM is excited to expand its services to further continue "shepherding" the communities it touches with music, culture, news, weather, interviews and emergency alert services which will now expand from approximately 7,000 to 21,000 listeners on the volcanically active, weather enhanced, flood and tsunami prone area of the southern region of Hawaii island.

During an interview at KAHU 91.7 FM on August 27, 2011 with Radio Announcer, Pahala resident and 75-year old part-time Reserve Officer for the County Hawaii Police Department, Uncle Bobby Gomes, Senator Kahele stated, "KAHU is an important part of the community in this region of Hawaii island and having good friends in this district, as well as a long-term friendship for many years with Station General Manager, Wendell J. Kaehuaea, it was crucial that this grant be expedited to ensure the emergency disaster preparedness and safety for the residents of this area." And, as County Council woman Brittany Smart continues to make monthly appearances on the station updating residents of Ka'u District issues, Station General Manager, Wendell J. Kaehuaea adds, "from the programming, local news and interviews, with the expanded coverage, especially regarding emergency alert services, this will enable a stronger sense of security for all of the families in the district. Once the installation is complete there will be a testing phase to ensure that the station is heard clearly from areas of Miloli'i to Mt. View. We hope to have all of our projections completed by year end."

BREAKING NEWS: October 18th at 9:00 a.m. the station antenna and transmitter disconnection and move begins from 96-3207 Maile Street, Pahala, Hawaii.

The station will continue to broadcast via online streaming access from their web site, enabling listeners on computers and mobile devices the ability to still hear the station during the move. This expansion is also made possible by "locals": RF Specialities/equipment(Honolulu), Pacific Communications/crews(Kona), Bonny Doon Inc./broadcast services(Lihue), Mike Munnerlyn Construction/tower site construction(Pahala), and Ed Hirayama Electrical Inc./hook-ups(Hilo).

About the District of Ka'u and Just Beyond | Southern Tip of Hawaii Island

The KAHU 91.7 FM radio broadcast expansion is projected to reach approximately 21,605* residents from Mt. View through the Ka'u District and over to Miloli'i out of the total 165,411† residents on the entire island of Hawaii. The main industries in this region include macadamia nut orchards, coffee farming, horticulture, family-owned farms, ranching and tourism. This area is known for flash floods, earthquakes; with its close proximity to Kilauea and the National Volcano Park, and Tsunamis are not uncommon. The oddity comes with there never having been emergency broadcast services available in this area until the debut of KAHU 91.7 FM, The Shepherd June 28, 2010.

About KAHU 91.7 FM, Pahala, Hawaii | The Shepherd - Radio the way **you** like it.

The mission of KAHU 91.7 FM, The Shepherd, broadcasting LIVE from Pahala on the island of Hawaii is to embrace the communities that it serves in the District of Ka'u, around the island of Hawaii, the outer islands and beyond. As the only Native Hawaiian owned and operated station in the United States and sole resource of emergency broadcast services to the District of Ka'u on the southern region of the island of Hawaii, the goal of KAHU 91.7 FM is to assist in keeping the doors of business open for local merchants and businesses, educate listeners to the Hawaiian culture and island diversity, support the community through a variety of unique avenues and offer a voice of friendship through music and programming--welcoming all who enter the 'Ohana' (family) of KAHU 91.7 FM. (<http://www.kahufm.com>) | P.O. Box 129, Pahala, Hawaii 96777

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*†per the 2010 Hawaii State Census