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Dear Friends of KICY,

My name is Lon Swanson and it has been my privilege to be a part of the ministry here at the radio station this past year. I've completed a little over half of my two-year commitment to KICY. What a year it has been! I've learned a lot about the radio business, but most importantly, I've learned about the unique ministries that KICY has in western Alaska, and the Russian Far-east, and how much they are needed and appreciated by the listeners the station's signal reaches.

By now, most of you have heard about the August 17th fire at the transmitter site this past summer. It was a gray, foggy morning and you could smell the smoke in the air from the fires in the Alaskan interior. The smoke had been drifting in for over a week. I had started the



Breakfast Club program on the AM station, when I noticed some interference with the signal. I checked the equipment in the studio to make sure it wasn't something I was doing, then checked with Dennis to let him know about the situation.

About fifteen minutes later the station was off the air. Dennis drove out to the transmitter site through the thickest fog he had ever experienced, and found flames shooting through the roof of the old transmitter building that still contained the tuning coils, which sent the signal to the antenna. He called the fire station, then called the studio. The disappointment and anguish in his voice was felt right through the phone. KICY AM 850 was off the air.

My next phone call was to a pastor friend I was to interview on the show that morning. I told him about the fire. His conversation didn't miss a beat. "God's going to bring some great things out of this," he said. Indeed, the Lord is doing great things at KICY. What an opportunity He is providing us. By the end of summer in 2006, I pray KICY will be on solid ground, both literally and figuratively.

We need to reset the center tower and replace the tuning circuitry with state of the art coils that can not only handle the power of a 50,000 watt station, but will allow the station to upgrade as future FCC digital mandates are enacted. To replace the coils alone is estimated at over \$200,000. That doesn't include the cost of resetting the tower. It is my hope that by the end of the 2006 summer, KICY will have a state of the art transmitter site on a solid foundation, which includes being debt free. With your help, I know it's possible.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support of the ministries of KICY.

Sincerely,

Lon Swanson