



NOAA'S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
300 Startare Drive
Eureka, CA 95501-6000

April 2, 2009

Scott Bakker, Capt. Civil Air Patrol
Deputy Commander, Air Operations Officer

Dear Scott Bakker,

I want to commend the Brookings Civil Air Patrol (CAP) for their participation in the Tsunami Warning Communications Test that was conducted on March 25th, 2009 in Humboldt County. This test involved the Emergency Alert System and other notification systems such as outdoor tsunami sirens, reverse calling, and NOAA Weather Radio. A unique feature of this test is that the activation of the Emergency Alert System was done as if this was a real tsunami. This was done to ensure that the system would work for a real tsunami. The use of an airplane mounted public address system was added to the test just weeks before the test.

Feedback was received from hundreds of residents regarding the test and the use of the CAP public address system. We also stationed observers throughout the flight path, and encouraged local elected officials and responding agencies to also provide feedback. All of the feedback was extremely positive. It was very clear that the new technology being employed by the CAP truly represents a new era in airplane mounted public address system. Any skeptics of such an approach were completely convinced by this event and this new technology.

I also want to extend my appreciation to the Power Sonix Co. for developing a new and a state of the art speaker system that will enable us to warn the public in a way we never thought possible before, and for their dedication to the ongoing research into the use of this technology. I understand that they are supplying this system for the good of the cause without asking for compensation ahead of time.

The entire CAP team was also a great pleasure to work with. They are true professionals who know what they are doing and understand the importance of their work. I sincerely hope to have the opportunity, and the honor, of working with this excellent team again in the future.

Sincerely,

Troy Nicolini
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