



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Rayvon Williams
Airport Director
Watsonville Municipal Airport
100 Aviation Way
Watsonville, CA 95076

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing on behalf of Acting Regional Administrator Deborah Jordan, who has asked me to respond to your May 10, 2021 letter regarding EPA support for purchase of unleaded aviation fuel.

Thank you for your interest in this subject and we support your goal of reducing lead emission at your airport. However, EPA is not able to endorse any particular fuel, fuel safety or operation requirements. EPA is concerned about all potential sources of lead exposure, including from piston-engine aircraft, and there are actions that can and are being taken to reduce lead from this source. These actions include making unleaded fuel available and taking steps to mitigate the potential for elevated lead levels beyond airport property. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) shares EPA's concerns about lead emissions from piston-engine aircraft, and FAA has a program underway to identify unleaded alternatives for the fleet of piston-engine aircraft. EPA recognizes the need for continued effort to further reduce lead exposure, especially for children, due to the potential impact of multiple sources of lead.

To learn more about FAA's recent updates to aviation gasoline programs and initiatives, please visit:
<https://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/avgas/>

To learn more about regulations for lead emissions from aircraft, please visit:
<https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/regulations-lead-emissions-aircraft>

This congressionally mandated report from the National Academies of Sciences describes the roles of various government entities in this complex effort:
<https://www.nationalacademies.org/news/2021/01/eliminating-lead-emissions-from-small-aircraft-will-require-concerted-efforts-across-the-aviation-sector-says-new-report>

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH
ADAMS

Elizabeth J. Adams
Director, Air and Radiation Division

Digitally signed by ELIZABETH
ADAMS
Date: 2021.05.24 18:13:35 -07'00'

Attachment 1
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