October 29, 2026

Miles McFall
[redacted].
Joseph, OR 97846
(mmcfall@uw.edu)

Oregon Department of Aviation
Re: Joseph State Airport

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express concerns about Joseph State Airport (JSA) potentially no longer having the capacity to fuel aircraft. I have been advised of this situation by members of our local Joseph Flying Club.

As a resident of Oregon residing in Joseph, and as a Board member of the Wallowa County Search and Rescue (SAR) Corporation, I oppose procedural or policy changes that restrict the JSA's access to aviation fuel. SAR requires aviation fuel to operate UTV and other vehicles needed to successfully execute rescue operations. Additionally, restrictions on access to aviation fuel could conceivably impede LifeFlight fixed wing air ambulances from refueling at JSA in order to evacuate injured persons to emergency care facilities in a timely manner.

Thank you in advance for considering my input regarding potential unintended safety consequences of restricting access to aviation fuel at our local airport.

Sincerely,

Miles McFall
Wallowa County Search and Rescue Corporation
541-398-8891