RPC-2026-010

Expedited Unleaded Aviation Fuel Sales at Hillsboro Airport

Whereas in November, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency declared that any amount of lead is dangerous to health of humans;

Whereas and EPA study ranked the Hillsboro Airport (HIO) as the 8th most lead contaminated airport in the country;

Whereas Washington County is the most lead contaminated county in the state of Oregon;

Whereas piston driven aircraft emit ¾ tons of lead in and around the HIO each year;

Whereas an OSU / PSU study of tree moss in the vicinity of the Troutdale and Hillsboro airports found that those areas within a 2 mile radius of the airports had 30 to 50 times more background lead contamination than those who live in areas further beyond the airport;

Whereas the Port of Portland has said that ending the sale of leaded avgas is the Port's #1 Priority;

Whereas the sale of leaded avgas will be prohibited by the FAA by the year 2030:

Whereas there are currently two FAA approved unleaded avgas alternatives (Swift 100 and GAMI G 100 UL) currently available for distribution and sale.

Therefore, be it resolved by the Central Committee of the Washington County Democratic Party that we urge the Port of Portland Commission and staff to expedite the sale of an unleaded avgas at HIO and ban the sale of any leaded avgas by the year 2028.

Reference:

https://news.oregonstate.edu/news/leaded-aviation-gas-drives-lead-levels-near-regional-airports-raising-health-concerns-new