



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Central Region

Record of Telephone Conversation

Person Interviewed: Mark Frank – FAA Inspector

Date: July 11, 2017

Subject: – CEN17LA261

Fuel tanks were topped off – 42 gallons

Practiced touch and go landings at Fulton Co. for 1:15

Landed and picked up passenger who was the student pilot/owners father

Flew to Bolton Field, Columbus

Ate lunch/dinner and were on the ground for about 2:30 minutes

Checked fuel level with stick prior to departure

Thought they had enough fuel, about 15 gallons on departing Bolton Field

Flew back to Fulton Co. with fuel selector on “both”

Engine lost power while in the traffic pattern

Landed just a few feet short of the runway

Aircraft was upgraded from a 115 hp engine to the 180 hp about 30 hrs prior to accident

Knew the fuel gauges were inaccurate

Intentionally wanted a low fuel level so mechanic could look at gauges

Postaccident

Drained 12 oz fuel from left tank; right tank was empty

No fuel spillage at scene was noted

Applied power to airplane Left fuel gauge indicated full – right gauge indicated empty

Firewall damage

Hole in bottom of gascolator looks like it was from impact.

Pamela S Sullivan

National Transportation Safety Board

Air Safety Investigator