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Subject: ERA24LA135-FAA engine examination oversight debrief

Contact: FAA Inspector-Michael Torrent

In a telephone conversation with Inspector Torrent, we discussed the oversight of the engine examination. The examination took place at Florida Air Recovery on April 11, 2024. A 100-hour inspection was conducted, which included a compression check, valvetrain continuity, and examinations of the oil, spark plugs, magneto, and carburetor. The overall condition of the engine was assessed. No anomalies were discovered that would have precluded normal operation.

After the examination, another telephone interview was conducted with the pilot to ask if he might have missed anything during his first statement. The pilot said he was flying low and slow, looking for a house to conduct a gender reveal but could not find it. He mentioned that when the engine started to lose power, he attempted to use the carburetor heat, but it was too late. He looked for a place to land and put the airplane down in a field. The pilot acknowledged that he should have used the carburetor heat earlier and stated that he would use it in the future.