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Date: 01/08/2024

Subject: ERA25LA094

Contact: Roger Blackman – Pilot

The following is a summary of a conversation with the accident pilot regarding the events involving the accident flight of N458K

The pilot reported that he took off into a storm and deviated from his initial plan to go around the weather. The pilot checked the weather at the Florence Regional Airport, and it was reported to be 400 ft overcast with rain and wind. The pilot reported that he first attempted an approach using the RNAV 27, during the approach the pilot stated that the landing gear operated normally. During the RNAV approach, the pilot performed a missed approach procedure. The pilot then performed the ILS 9 approach. The pilot reported that when he put the gear down, he didn't see any green lights. He also reported that his lights were blinking off and on. He then reported that he was scared due to having all the passengers onboard and 100 gallons of fuel. He decided he couldn't manually crank down the gear because it takes at least 43 cranks. During the landing the pilot then landed on the belly of the airplane, and it skidded to a stop.

The pilot then reported that they recovered the airplane to the hazmat area, at which point they used the manual extension and cranked it down and locked the landing gear. He then reported that he was able to bring the gear back up using the motor; however, the gear wouldn't go down with the motor. They then cranked the gear manually down again. After moving several of the circuit breakers, the pilot reported that the gear motor started to work again in the retraction and extension positions.

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