

Ryan Enders
Aviation Accident Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: February 20, 2025

Subject: ERA25LA118 Airport Manager Lighting Questions

Contact: Wesley McDonald, Airport Operations Manager

Mr. McDonald was contacted via email to discuss the lighting at the airport at the time of the accident of N1159K. The following is a summary from the email discussions:

The IIC contacted Mr. McDonald requesting clarification on any known outages for runway 27. The following was sent to Mr. McDonald:

"I received the information from Inspector Ellerbee that stated there were no observed outages for RWY 27 at the time of the accident.

I would like to confirm that once more. The pilot reports that the edge of the threshold lights (green) were operating, but the center lines prior to the threshold were inop. It sounds like they may have hit one of those lights during the accident. When I look at Google Earth, I only see 4 lights on each side..is that correct?

Did you have to repair any other lights after the accident. Did anyone else report lights being inop? Were all the lights operating prior to the accident?"

A satellite image of runway 27 was provided in the email to Mr. McDonald.

Mr. McDonald replied the same day stating:

"The green threshold lights were operational prior to the accident. The aircraft struck and damaged one of them upon landing. The only lighting repair needed at the moment is the replacement of one green threshold light and associated fixture. We are speaking with a contractor who has scheduled a test for all threshold lights to ensure they are properly calibrated.

The 8 total lights you are referring to on google earth appear to be the red runway end/edge lights. Those were operational at the time of the accident.

When the pilot references the "center lines prior to the threshold", what is he referring to? We have a MALSF lighting system on Runway 27 and there were no reported outages at the time of the accident. The controller on duty would have been in charge with ensuring they were selected correctly for the conditions at the time. "