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Date: 5/12/2026

Subject: ERA26LA201, FAA accident damage assessment

Contact: Ramon Smeltz, FAA Inspector

During a telephone call with Inspector Smeltz, he stated that the airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing and fuselage. A review of pictures taken by Inspector Smeltz confirmed the damage. During the conversation, Inspector Smeltz also informed me that during an interview, the pilot stated he inadvertently left the fuel selector in the off position during takeoff. The pilot attempted to return to the departing airport but crashed adjacent to the taxiway.

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