

Suffern Paul

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2019 4:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 1/28/19 accident at OKB statement

Good afternoon Scott,

Joey reached out and said you'd like a statement from Sarah and I. I know she sent one over and included two pictures I had sent, but I didn't know if you wanted a separate one from me as well.

We had been planning to fly at OKB all day and the weather was forecast to be acceptable for what we wanted to do - a short hop over to CRQ for pattern work and a return back to OKB. I arrived at OKB about 1935 and met Sarah who was already there. We reached the plane about 1940 and began to preflight it. Both of us could see that a fog bank was to the west of the airport. Additionally, the plane was wet with condensation.

Around this time a Cessna 172 landed on runway 24. We could see his lights from fairly far out - I would estimate a couple of miles when we originally noticed him. The 172 landed and back-taxiied to runway 24 before departing again. While this was happening I called the OKB ASOS at 1947 (Sarah sent the photo of this). The minute-weather stated the visibility was 1 and 3/4sm with the temperature and dewpoint both 10. I do not recall the exact ceiling but it was not particularly low, 2-3000 feet I believe. This was substantially worse than the METAR which was approximately an hour old. We discussed this and watched the 172 depart. Shortly after departure and approximately one half mile west of the airport it disappeared into the fog bank.

Seeing this and expecting the conditions to worsen, we elected to terminate our flight, secured the airplane, and walked back to our cars. We talked in the parking lot for approximately 10 minutes, during which time the fog bank continued to move in from the west, eventually enveloping the entire airport. At 2005 while sitting at the traffic light at Airport Road and Highway 76 I took a picture to send to my fiance showing the foggy conditions, which was also included with Sarah's email. Traveling down Highway 76 eastbound, there was intermittent thick fog for a few miles before it finally cleared up.

If I can provide any more information, feel free to contact me.

