



January 9, 2019

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Docket Operations  
West Building – ground floor  
Room W12-140  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Reference: Piper Aircraft Airworthiness Directive, Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2018-1046;  
Product Identifier 2018-CE-049-AD

The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) is the world leader in recreational aviation. With an international membership of nearly 220,000 people in over 100 nations, EAA brings together pilots, aircraft builders, owners, and aviation enthusiasts who are dedicated to sharing *the Spirit of Aviation* by promoting the continued growth of aviation, the preservation of its history and a commitment to its future.

EAA joins with Piper Aircraft, Inc. and others in requesting an extension of the comment period for the airworthiness directive (AD) proposed in Docket No. FAA-2018-1046 from 45 days to 90 days. Further time should be added to compensate for the shutdown of the federal government that began on December 22.

This is a complex and unique AD that applies in varying degrees to a large swath of the fleet. Consequently, the time required to evaluate this AD is significant. The publication of the NPRM just prior to Christmas caused the first few days of the comment period to fall over the winter holidays, removing several business days from the allotted time.

Additionally, the current shutdown hampers the ability of the community and FAA to effectively communicate, making it difficult for many to offer adequately informed and constructive comments to the docket.

Thank you very much for your consideration of a comment period extension in light of these factors. EAA intends to provide substantive comments on the proposed AD itself in due time.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Elliott", written in a cursive style.

Sean Elliott  
Vice President, Advocacy and Safety