**TO: Oconee County Aeronautics Commission** 

FROM: Clemson-Oconee Airport Association (COAA)

DATE: October 25, 2012

SUBJECT: Feasibility of 91-octane non-ethanol fuel at CEU

Government pressure is rising to phase-out 100LL aviation fuel in the near future. New alternative fuels that will satisfy 100% of the gasoline-based fleet are being developed, but as a boutique fuel these new alternatives will be costly and largely untested in time in the broader fleet.

One alternative fuel that is already readily available is non-ethanol, 91 octane "automotive" fuel (known hereafter as autogas). Already 80% of the general aviation fleet can safely use this fuel under current operating or supplement type certificates, availability is plentiful direct from the fuel distribution centers, and pricing is driven by its substantially larger market.

By offering autogas at the airport, safety concerns about quality control, handling and delivery are accommodated.

Currently the closest airport offering autogas is Daniel Field in Augusta, GA. Costs to add a separate tank, pad, fueling hose and card reader for self-serve are site-dependent and by conservative estimates show a reasonable pay-back period. Given the lack of airport availability in the area, fuel sales potential should be attractive. We encourage the Aeronautics Commission to consider recommending the investment to add autogas in some deliverable form at Oconee County Regional Airport.

Whereas non-ethanol, 91 octane gasoline will serve the majority of the general aviation fleet but is not available for sale at any airport within our local area, and

Whereas by offering non-ethanol, 91 octane gasoline at an airport site, product quality can be controlled and delivery safety can be upheld, and

Whereas adding non-ethanol, 91 octane gasoline could be a profitable investment while satisfying the demand over a large area of the Carolinas and Georgia,

**Be it resolved** on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year 2012, that the Clemson Oconee Airport Association petitions the Oconee County Aeronautics Commission to study the feasibility and to recommend appropriate actions to make non-ethanol, 91 octane fuel available at the Oconee County Regional Airport.