

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.617

Effective Date:
March 7, 2013

Cancellation Date:
August 22, 2013

SUBJ: AvMet Volcanic Ash

1. **Purpose of This Notice.** This notice adds the detection of sulfur gases (SO₂ and H₂S) in the aircraft cabin to the list of significant weather phenomena that are to be handled and disseminated in pilot reports (PIREP).
2. **Audience.** This notice applies to FAA air traffic control facilities and flight service stations.
3. **Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.
4. **Cancellation.** This notice cancels N JO 7110.589, AvMet Volcanic Ash, effective July 13, 2012.
5. **Procedures.** Amend FAA Order JO 7110.65, paragraph 2-6-3, to read as follows:

2-6-3. PIREP INFORMATION

Significant PIREP information includes reports of strong frontal activity, squall lines, thunderstorms, light to severe icing, wind shear and turbulence (including clear air turbulence) of moderate or greater intensity, volcanic eruptions and volcanic ash clouds, detection of sulfur gases (SO₂ or H₂S) in the cabin, and other conditions pertinent to flight safety.

REFERENCE, no change.

a. Solicit PIREPs when requested or when one of the following conditions exists or is forecast for your area of jurisdiction:

Subparagraphs a1 through a7, no change.

8. Detection of sulfur gases (SO₂ or H₂S), associated with volcanic activity, in the cabin.

NOTE-

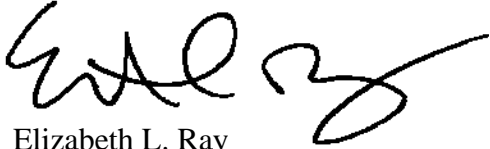
The smell of sulfur gases in the cockpit may indicate volcanic activity that has not yet been detected or reported and/or possible entry into an ash-bearing cloud. SO₂ is identifiable as the sharp, acrid odor of a freshly struck match. H₂S, also known as sewer gas, has the odor of rotten eggs.

Subparagraph a8, renumber to a9.

No further changes to paragraph.

6. **Distribution.** This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Terminal, En Route and Oceanic, System Operations, and Mission Support; Office of ATO Safety and Technical Training; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

7. Background. The FAA is responsible for providing meteorological data to stakeholders of the National Airspace System. This includes disseminating and distributing observations, forecasts, and warning messages that pertain to volcanic activity including volcanic ash. PIREPs for volcanic activity and volcanic ash are provided to air traffic control in a specified format which is delineated in the Aeronautical Information Manual. These reports are then forwarded to the Volcanic Ash Advisory Centers and are used to issue volcanic ash SIGMETs. These changes follow new International Civil Aviation Organization guidelines as set forth by the International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group and are in effect as of November 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth L. Ray', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Elizabeth L. Ray
Vice President, Mission Support Services
Air Traffic Organization