

9/13/2024

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

2024-169/10-23

2145619

To: FAA (AJV-A, ATM ZNY ARTCC)

Info: FAA (AVP-1, AVP-200, AFS-200, AFS-260, ASO-600, Director of Air Traffic Operations ESA North), A4A, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, ATSAP, ATSG, CAPA, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director  
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: Similar Sounding Fix Names - SARAA/SARRA

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at [becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov](mailto:becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov).



Aviation Safety Reporting System  
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



**ACN 2145619****DATE / TIME**

Date of Occurrence	202407
Local Time Of Day	No Local Time Of Day Stated

**PLACE**

Locale	ZNY.ARTCC
State	NY
Altitude - MSL	14000

**ENVIRONMENT**

Flight Conditions	VMC
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**AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X**

ATC / Advisory - Center	ZNY
Make Model Name	Light Transport, Low Wing, 2 Turbojet Eng
Operating Under FAR Part	91

**PERSON 1**

Function - Flight Crew	Captain
Function - Flight Crew	Pilot Not Flying
ASRS Report Number	2145619

**EVENTS**

Anomaly	Deviation - Track / Heading - All Types
Anomaly	Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Clearance
Result - Flight Crew	Became Reoriented
Result - Flight Crew	Requested ATC Assistance / Clarification
Result - Air Traffic Control	Issued New Clearance
Result - Air Traffic Control	Provided Assistance

**NARRATIVE 1**

Our filed route had direct to the fix "SARAA" after crossing the PTW NAVAID. After crossing PTW we noticed that our aircraft started to turn farther west than we thought it should have then I noticed that I made a mistake when inputting the route into our GPS. I typed in SARRA instead of SARAA, SARRA is a fix in California. As soon as I caught this mistake, ATC asked where I was going and I explained the situation. They told me to standby for a phone number to call due to a possible pilot deviation. They ended up telling me to not worry about the phone number and then handed me off to the next facility. It was an honest mistake and I've learned from this to verify fixes in the computer.

**SYNOPSIS**

Corporate pilot reported confusion between two similarly spelled fixes, SARAA and SARRA, after being cleared direct and selecting the wrong fix resulting in a heading deviation.