

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198800725**

Piper PA25-235

6 August 1988

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198800725 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: 25 km WNW Port Lincoln SA

Date: 6 August 1988 **Time:** 1130

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	1

Aircraft Details: Piper PA25-235

Registration: VH-FBN

Serial Number: 25-3166

Operation Type: Aerial Work

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: 35 km WNW Port Lincoln
SA

Departure Time: 1125

Destination: 35 km WNW Port Lincoln
SA

Approved for Release: 26 August 1988

Circumstances:

The pilot had completed his last spray run and had pulled up into a procedure turn to make a clean-up run. He was aware of two power lines, one running parallel to the spray run and the other at an angle to the first. He was intent on avoiding the line at an angle to his run but struck the other as he positioned for the clean-up run. Visibility at the time was reduced in light rain. The line hit the right wingtip and windshield wirecutter. The wirecutter bent under the load and the wire broke the windscreen and tore off the top of the cockpit before it separated. The pilot was able to recover the aircraft without further damage.

Significant Factors:

It was considered that the following factors were relevant to the development of the the accident

1. Pilot did not see or avoid the powerline.
2. Pilot intent on avoiding another powerline.
3. Reduced visibility in light rain.