

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198502559**

Bell 206 B

15 October 1985

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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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: 198502559
Location: 26 km North Nowra NSW
Date: 15 October 1985
Highest Injury Level: Serious
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: N/A

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	1	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	1	0	0
Total	0	2	1	0

Aircraft Details: Bell 206 B
Registration: VH-PHB
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Carriage of passenger
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Wattamolla, 26 km North
 Nowra NSW
Departure Time: N/A
Destination: Albion Park NSW

Approved for Release: June 26th 1986

Circumstances:

The helicopter had been chartered because the passenger's farm had been isolated by flood waters. The crew carried out a survey of the area before landing to check the suitability of the chosen site. Shortly after take-off, the aircraft collided with a power line which was about 25 feet agl, and then struck the ground heavily about 15 metres beyond the line. Both the pilot and the crewman reported that they had sighted the power line during the survey prior to landing. However, the pilot subsequently forgot the presence of the line and conducted a shallow climb after take-off. Because the rear seat cushions were wet, the passenger was placed in the front seat, while the crewman occupied a rear seat. When he became aware that the helicopter was climbing at a shallow angle, he reminded the pilot to beware of the wires. The pilot then saw the power line directly ahead of the aircraft, but was unable to avoid the collision.