

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199300836**

**Sikorsky Aircraft  
S76**

**28 March 1993**

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 199300836                      **Occurrence Type:** Incident  
**Location:**                      Near Snapper Oil Rig  
**State:**                      VIC                      **Inv Category:**                      4  
**Date:**                      Sunday 28 March 1993  
**Time:**                      0620 hours                      **Time Zone**                      EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Sikorsky Aircraft  
**Aircraft Model:**                      S-76A  
**Aircraft Registration:**                      VH-EMX                      **Serial Number:** 760109  
**Type of Operation:**                      Non-commercial Corporate/Executive  
**Damage to Aircraft:**                      Nil  
**Departure Point:**                      Barracouta Oil Rig VIC  
**Departure Time:**  
**Destination:**                      Snapper Oil Rig VIC

**Approved for Release:** Wednesday, October 26, 1994

Whilst enroute Barracouta to Snapper Oil Platform the number 2 engine oil pressure began to fluctuate. At Snapper the fluctuations became worse. The pilot-in-command decided to return the helicopter to Longford. Enroute Longford the oil pressure fell below minimum allowable. The pilot shut down number 2 engine and subsequently carried out a safe single engine landing at Longford. It was discovered by the engineers that the starter generator oil seal had popped out on the number 2 engine. Several quarts of oil had been pumped overboard in flight. It was found that only one quart of oil was left in number 2 engine when the pilot elected to shut down the engine.

#### Significant Factor

The following factor was considered relevant to the development of the incident:

1. The starter generator oil seal failed.
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