

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198502507**

**Bell 206B**

**6 January 1985**

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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:** 198502507 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** "Pasodoble", Hoskinstown (20 km SE Canberra), NSW.

**Date:** 6 January 1985 **Time:** 1100

**Highest Injury Level:** Serious

**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	1	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Bell 206B

**Registration:** VH-BHC

**Serial Number:**

**Operation Type:** Bushfire Control Activities

**Damage Level:** Destroyed

**Departure Point:** "Pasodoble", NSW.

**Departure Time:** 1100

**Destination:** "Woolcara", NSW. (10 km S "Pasodoble")

**Approved for Release:** 10th May, 1985

**Circumstances:**

Just after lift off, the pilot initiated a climbing left turn and the helicopter struck a powerline about 120 metres from the take-off point. Control of the helicopter was lost, it impacted the ground and rolled inverted. The occupants were able to evacuate the wreckage before it was destroyed by fire. The pilot was not aware of the existence of the powerline and did not see it during a pre-take off check of the DEPARTURE path. The nearest support pole indicating the existence of the powerline was surrounded by trees and the mottled background afforded a poor contrast for the detection of the wires.