

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198301294**

Hiller UH 12-E

17 May 1983

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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: 198301294 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: 11 km SW of Sydney Airport NSW

Date: 17 May 1983 **Time:** N/A

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	0	3

Aircraft Details: Hiller UH 12-E

Registration: VH-AGL

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Gas Pipeline Inspection

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Hoxton Park NSW

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Hoxton Park NSW

Approved for Release: 19th April, 1984

Circumstances:

Whilst on cruise at 1000 feet agl, the helicopter experienced a sudden loss of power. The pilot carried out an autorotative landing on river mud flats. During the landing the tail rotor struck the water. The transmission of the helicopter failed after the disintegration of the planetary gears which was caused by fatigue cracking. Fatigue cracks were found in several sections of the remaining gear fragments and it was not possible to determine the exact origin of the final failure.