Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198401402

Hiller UH 12-E

1 September 1984

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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: 198401402 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: 9 km SW of Boorowa NSW

Date: 1 September 1984 **Time:** 802

Highest Injury Level: Minor

Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Hiller UH 12-E

Registration: VH-CCU

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Crop Spraying **Damage Level:** Substantial

Departure Point: 7 km SW of Boorowa NSW

Departure Time: 0802

Destination: 7 km SW of Boorowa NSW

Approved for Release: 12th December, 1984

Circumstances:

While manoeuvring to commence a clean-up spray run parallel to a power line, the helicopter collided with a spur line. A broken section of the cable struck and severed the tail boom, control was lost and the aircraft struck the ground 150 metres beyond the spur line. The pilot was aware of the presence of the spur line and had crossed it on a number of occasions during the operation. He elected to carry out a previously unplanned clean-up run to dispense the remaining chemical and temporarily overlooked the proximity of the wire. There was some evidence to indicate that the pilot was suffering from fatigue at the time of the accident.