

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199503696**

**Hughes Helicopters  
Hughes 500**

**06 November 1995**

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director 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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

**Occurrence Number:** 199503696                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Turtle Cove  
**State:** QLD                      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Monday 06 November 1995  
**Time:** 0930 hours                      **Time Zone** EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Hughes Helicopters  
**Aircraft Model:** 369E  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-HWL                      **Serial Number:** 0397E  
**Type of Operation:** Miscellaneous Ferry  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Cairns QLD  
**Departure Time:**  
**Destination:** Turtle Cove QLD

**Crew Details:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Class of Licence</b>	<b>Hours on Type</b>	<b>Hours Total</b>
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	250.0	2600

**Approved for Release:** Wednesday, September 4, 1996

The pilot reported that during a steep approach to the landing area at Turtle Cove Resort, he heard a loud bang at approximately 250 feet followed by airframe vibration. A precautionary landing was made on the beach. Inspection of the aircraft revealed damage to two rotor blades, and after speaking to witnesses he realised that he had struck a power line.

The pilot said he had landed at the resort before but had not approached from this direction. He believed he had passed over the wires, but they were closer to the resort than he had anticipated. The pilot was not injured.