

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199400816**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
Skyhawk**

01 April 1994

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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: 199400816 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 1km NNE Latrobe Valley
State: VIC **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Friday 01 April 1994
Time: 1600 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: 172P
Aircraft Registration: VH-SIZ **Serial Number:** 17274689
Type of Operation: Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Flinders Island TAS
Departure Time: 1350 EST
Destination: Latrobe Valley VIC

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Private	110.0	455

Approved for Release: Tuesday, June 28, 1994

On the flight from Flinders Island an electrical failure occurred. The pilot continued to Latrobe Valley and made a landing approach behind another aircraft. On final approach, for runway 21, the aircraft was too low and the pilot advanced the throttle to correct for this. The engine missed then fired again. The pilot checked the carburettor heat setting and found that it was in the hot position. He pumped the throttle and the engine kept losing and gaining power and then ran normally.

Because of the low height and the terrain ahead, which included a power line, the pilot elected to put the aircraft down in a small clear area. A very heavy touchdown followed and the aircraft ran through a fence before stopping.

Following the accident the aircraft was found to contain an adequate amount of fuel. No inspection of the engine or its systems was carried out, and the reason for the interruption of power was not determined.

Significant Factors

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident:

1. A partial engine power loss and engine rough running for an undetermined reason.



2. The decision, by the pilot, to land in a small but immediately adjacent clear area.
3. The aircraft was landed heavily.

