



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Forest City, SD	Accident Number:	GAA15CA196
Date & Time:	07/01/2015, 2100 CDT	Registration:	N824DK
Aircraft:	ROBINSON HELICOPTER COMPANY R44 II	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that after he dropped his passenger off on a road, he departed to the east in smoky and hazy conditions. Shortly after takeoff, the helicopter impacted power transmission line wires that ran across the road. The helicopter then impacted the ground and skidded to a stop. The pilot reported there were no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation. The helicopter sustained substantial damage to the main rotors, upper arm, and fork assembly.

Flight Events

Maneuvering - Controlled flight into terr/obj (CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to monitor the flight environment for adequate terrain/obstacle clearance during takeoff, which resulted in the inflight collision with power transmission line wires.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft propeller/rotor-(general)-(general)-Damaged/degraded
Personnel issues-Psychological-Attention/monitoring-Attention-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Physical environment-Object/animal/substance-Wire-Awareness of condition
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Ceiling/visibility/precip-Haze/smoke-Effect on operation

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	63
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 261 hours (Total, all aircraft), 249 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	ROBINSON HELICOPTER COMPANY	Registration:	N824DK
Model/Series:	R44 II II	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WARNER FARM CORP.	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540 AE1A5
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KMBG, 1715 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Dusk	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots, 70°
Temperature:	24° C / 20° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Forest City, SD	Destination:	Forest City, SD

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jackie L Vanover	Adopted Date:	10/08/2015
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=91612		

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