

Australian Government Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Independent technical review – Aviation Safety Investigation A19Q0109 – Transportation Safety Board of Canada

Collision with terrain involving Robinson Helicopter Co. model R44, registered C-FJLH, near Lac Valtrie, Quebec, Canada on 10 July 2019

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Addendum

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Investigation final update

What happened

On 10 July 2019, a Robinson Helicopter Co model R44 helicopter, registered C-FJLH, with two persons on board, collided with terrain near Lac Valtrie, Quebec, Canada. Both persons died as a result of the accident.

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSB) investigated the accident and released a public report on 31 March 2021 (A19Q0109). Subsequently, the helicopter manufacturer (Robinson) formally requested that the TSB reconsider its reported findings in relation to the role of the helicopter's main rotor blades (specifically the localised disbonding of the lower aerofoil skin of one blade) in the development of the accident.

ATSB involvement

In support of this request, on 13 May 2021, the TSB Chair formally requested assistance from the ATSB Chief Commissioner in the conduct of an independent review of the TSB report's findings relating to the main rotor blades' role in the accident. Supporting materials were provided, including the TSB's laboratory report on the blade examination and, with the permission of the helicopter manufacturer, the submissions it provided on the laboratory, draft and public reports.

To support the review and ensure appropriate protections were afforded to the information provided, the ATSB commenced an External Aviation investigation (AE-2021-019) under the Australian *Transport Safety Investigation Act* 2003 (TSI Act). As such, all information received from the TSB was classified as Restricted Information in accordance with Section 60 of the TSI Act.

Investigation outcomes

The ATSB has completed its review of the TSB investigation and provided detailed feedback to the TSB management and Board under the provisions of s.62 of the TSI Act.

As such, all inquiries regarding the outcomes of this review should be directed to the Transportation Safety Board of Canada via their website:

General enquiries - Transportation Safety Board of Canada (tsb.gc.ca)

General details

Occurrence details

| Date and time: | 10 July 2019, approximately 1325 EDT (UTC -4h) | |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Occurrence category: | Accident | |
| Primary occurrence type: | Collision with terrain | |
| Location: | Near Lac Valtrie, Quebec, Canada | |

Aircraft details

| Manufacturer and model: | Robinson Helicopter Co. | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Registration: | C-FJLH | | |
| Operator: | Private | | |
| Serial number: | 2044 | | |
| Type of operation: | Private | | |
| Departure: | Lac de la Bideire, Quebec, Canada | | |
| Destination: | Sainte-Sophie, Quebec, Canada | | |
| Persons on board: | Crew – 1 | Passengers – 1 | |
| Injuries: | Crew – Fatal | Passengers – Fatal | |
| Damage: | Destroyed | | |