



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Eden, NC	Accident Number:	ERA21FA195
Date & Time:	April 28, 2021, 13:24 Local	Registration:	N53DE
Aircraft:	BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON CANADA 429	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Aerial observation		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON CANADA	Registration:	N53DE
Model/Series:	429	Aircraft Category:	Helicopter
Amateur Built:			
Operator:	DUKE ENERGY BUSINESS SERVICES LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Operator Designator Code:

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SIF,693 ft msl	Observation Time:	13:15 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	7 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C /15°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / None, 220°
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility:	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	CVFR
Departure Point:	Danville, NC (DAN)	Destination:	Burlington, NC (BUY)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	2 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	On-ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal, 2 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	36.497132,-79.718455 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Mccarter, Lawrence

Additional Participating Persons: Hazen Rowe; FAA - FSDO; Greensboro, NC
Nora Vallee; Transportation Safety Board of Canada; Gatineau
Merryn Spielman; Pratt & Whitney Canada
Mona Polson; Bell Flight Safety; Ft Worth, TX
Philip Kangagy; Duke Energy Aviation; Charlotte, NC
Jason Sponsel; Duke Energy Aviation; Charlotte, NC
Allen Blankenship; Duke Energy Aviation; Charlotte, NC
Garrett Scott; Duke Energy Aviation; Charlotte, NC

Investigation Class: [Class 3](#)

Note: