## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT This form to be used for reporting civil and public use aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION											
Accident/Incident Location					Date/Time						
Nearest City/Place: Grand Lake				State: LA			Date: 03/15/2013 Local Time: 1147				
ZIP: 70607 Country: United	States				mm/dd/vvvv						
Latitude: +030.03.86 (dd:mm:ss N/S)	Longitude: -09	93.16.75	_(ddd	:mm:ss E/W)				Tim	e Zone:	lliai	
Phase of Operation					С	ollision with O	ther Aircraft		Altitude o	f In-Flight	
Standing Takeoff (incl. initial clin				lover	_	Midair			Occurren	ce	
Taxi Climb	Mane			Other	_	] On-ground			approx 10	00	A MCI
									II MSL		
AIRCRAFT INFORMATION											
Manufacturer: Sikorsky						Max Gross W	/eight: <u>10.800</u>		lbs		
Model: <u>S76 A ++</u>						Weight at Tir	ne of Acciden	t/Inc	ident:		lbs
Serial Number: 760369						Location of C	enter of Grav	ity a	t Time of	Accident/I1	ncident:
<b>Registration Number:</b> <u>N574EH</u>		Amateur-l	built:	🗌 Yes 🔳 N	0					or 🗌 datur	
				r		-or-			-	namic Cord (	
	rworthiness (	Certificate		Number of	Se	ats: <u>14</u>	L	ndin	g Gear	Retrac	table
☐ Airplane (Check all the ☐ Balloon Standard	at apply) Spec	ial		If Large Airc	raft	, how many seats				hal landing ge	ear
Blimp/Dirigible		estricted		-			, i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		iration that a		
Utility	🗌 Lii	mited		Flight Ci	rew	2	[		cycle		ailwheel
Haligontar		ovisional		Cabin Ci	rew	:	[		Amphibian 🗌 High Skid		
Powered lift		perimental ecial Flight				Emergency Float Skid					
Ultralight Ultranovn		ght Sport	Sport Hull						ki/Wheel		
		<b>.</b>						-	known		
Type of Maintenance Program			-	on Type			Date Last Inspection: 03/10/2013				
Annual Conditional (Amateur-built only)		□ 100 Hour □ Continuous Airworthin □ AAIP □ Conditional Inspection									
Manufacturer's Inspection Program		Annua Annua	1		n Airframe Tota			tal T	ime: 675	9.8	hrs
<ul> <li>Other Approved Inspection Program (A</li> <li>Continuous Airworthiness</li> </ul>	AIP)	<u></u>	@6752  Obra				hours measured at <i>(check one)</i>				
Other, specify:		66	6753.9hrs				Last Inspection Time of Accident/Incident				
IFR Equipped		Stall Wa	all Warning System Installed				Type of Fire Extinguishing System				
Yes No Unknown		Yes No Unknown					☐ None		0 0	·	
						Specify Halon					
ELT Installed ELT Activated		ELT Ma	nufa	cturer: Artex							
Yes No Yes No		Model/S	Model/Series: C406H-NM								
ELT Aided in Locating Accident/Inc	cident		rial Number: 170-02222								
Yes No				-	Battery Exp. Date:						
Engine Type	Reciprocatin			ropeller					<b>J</b>		
	System Type			opener							
Turbo Shaft Turbo Fan Carburetor				Fixed Pitch			turer:				
Turbo Prop       Unknown       Fuel Injected       Controllable Pitch       Model:											
		T					Engine Rated				
						Date	Power Measur as (check one)	eu	Total	Time Since	Time Since
			Man	ufacturer's		of Mfg.	Horsepow			Inspection	Overhaul
Engine Engine Manufacturer M	Iodel/Series					mm/dd/yyyy	lbs of Thru	ıst	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)
Eng. 1 Turbomeca	Arriel 1S1			3016		_	725 S		8361.1	5.9	279.4
Eng. 2 Turbomeca	Arriel 1S1	1		3508TEC			725 S		6696.8	38.1	5.9
Eng. 3											
Eng. 4						1	1		1	1	1

<b>OWNER/OPERATOR IN</b>	FORMATIO	N					
Registered Aircraft Owner				Owner Address			
Name: Era Helicopters LLC				City:			
Fractional Ownership Aircraft:	🗌 Yes 🔳 No	State: LA Country: United States	ZIP:				
-	Same As Registered	d Owner		Operator Address	Same As Registered Owner		
Name: Era Helicopters LLC				City:	710		
Doing Business As: Air Carrier/Operator Designator (-	4 Character Cod	e):		Country:	ZIP:		
Regulation Flight Conducted Un		.)		Revenue Sightseein			
	FAR 91 Special	Flight Public Use (selec	t type)	Yes No			
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐	Non-US, Comm Non-US, Non-co Armed Forces	ercial 🗌 Federal 🔲 🛛	State 🗌 Local	Air Medical Flight			
Purpose of Flightfor FAR 91, 103, 133, 137(Select of the section of the se	one)	<b>Revenue Operation</b> for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135 (	Select one)	<b>Type of Commerci</b> (Check all that apply)	ial Operating Certificate Held		
<ul> <li>Personal</li> <li>Business</li> <li>Executive/Corporate</li> <li>Other Work Use</li> <li>Instructional</li> <li>Ferry</li> <li>Positioning</li> <li>Aerial Application</li> </ul>		Scheduled or Commuter Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi  Domestic or International Domestic International	1	<ul> <li>None</li> <li>Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (121)</li> <li>Supplemental</li> <li>Air Cargo</li> <li>Foreign Air Carriers (129)</li> <li>Commuter Air Carrier (135)</li> <li>On-Demand Air Taxi (135)</li> <li>Large Helicopter (127)</li> <li>Rotorcraft External Load (133)</li> </ul>			
Aerial Observation		Cargo Operation					
Air Race / Show		Passenger/Cargo     PassengerHo	w many?	- or -	aft (137)		
☐ Flight Test ☐ Public Use		Cargo lbs		☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft			
Unknown				_			
OTHER AIRCRAFT – CO	OLLISION (I	f air or ground collision occu	rred, complete	this section for other			
					Damage to Other Aircraft         Destroyed       Minor         Substantial       None		
Registered Owner of Other Airc	craft						
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:			City: State: Country:	ZIP:			
Pilot of Other Aircraft							
First Name:			City:				
Middle Initial:							
Last Name:			-				
MECHANICAL MALFUN		、 ·	•	on separate sheet)	Tetel T' and C also		
<b>Was there Mechanical Malfunct</b> (If yes, list the name of the part, manual)					Total Time/Cycles On Part		
Suspected tail rotor faile		·			Hours		
					Cycles		
					Time Since This Part Inspected/Overhauled Hours		
DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT	T AND OTH	ER PROPERTY					
Aircraft Damage	Aircraft F			Aircraft Explosion			
None     Substantial       Minor     Destroyed	□ None □ In-Fligh ■ On-Grou		In-Flight	<ul> <li>None</li> <li>In-Flight</li> <li>On-Ground</li> </ul>	☐ Both Ground and In-Flight ☐ Unknown Origin		

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property (use additional sheet if necessary)									
Aircraft destroyed. some damage to cow pasture from burnt grass.									
AIRPORT INFORMATION (If the	accident/incident coou	word on one	roach takaoff ar i	within 2 miles	of an airport	complete this section)			
Airport Identifier: LCH	accident/incident occu	ineu on appi	Distance From						
Airport Name: Lake Charles Regional			Direction From						
Proximity to Airport Off Airport/Airst	rin 🗌 On Airport 🔲 (	)n Airstrin	Airport Elevat			ft. MSL			
Approach Segment (Select one)		Jii / Iii Suip	An port Elevat			It. WIGE			
On Instrument Approach	g 🗌 Base	leg	🗌 Fir	nal		Go Around			
Crosswind Downy		Approach		ported Landing (a		h)			
<b>IFR Approach</b> (Check all that apply)		lan it	VFR Approach	(Check all that					
None     PAR       ADF/NDB     Sidestep		Practice GPS	None Traffic Pattern			p and Go Jch and Go			
SDF ILS	ASR	Loran	Straight-In	E 11	🗌 Sin	nulated Forced Landing			
VOR/TVOR     Localizer Only       VOR/DME     LOC-back course	Visual Contact	Unknown	Valley/Terrain	Following		ced Landing cautionary Landing			
TACAN RNAV	Circling		Full Stop		Un	known			
Runway Information				-	-	Check all that apply) $\Box$ W ( $\Box$ C )			
	ft Width:	ft	Dry Holes	Snow-		Water-Calm Water-Choppy			
Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that a			☐ Ice Covered ☐ Rough	Snow- Snow-	Dry Wet	☐ Water-Glassy ☐ Wet			
Asphalt Grass/Turf Maca Concrete Gravel Meta	adam 🗌 Water I/Wood 🗌 Unknown		Rubber Deposi	its 🔲 Soft					
Dirt Ice Snov	V		Slush Covered	Vegeta	tion				
FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMA	1								
Last Departure Point	Time of Departure	Destination			Type Flight				
Airport ID: LCH	Time: 11:19	Airport ID:			□ None □ Company	□ VFR/IFR VFR □ IFR			
City: Lake Charles	Time Zone: central	City: Lake C State: LA			Military V				
Country: United States	Time Zone.		nited States						
Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check a.	Il that apply)	Country:			11ctrateur				
□ None □ Special VFR	Specia	l IFR	□ VFI	R Flight Followir	ıg	Cruise			
VFR IFR	VFR C		Tra:	ffic Advisory		Unknown / NA			
Airspace where the accident/incident occ				<b>—</b> • • • •					
Class A Class E Class G		ibited Area ricted Area		☐ Jet Training . ☐ TRSA	Area	Special Air Traffic Control Area			
Class C Demo Area		tary Operation		FAR 93		Unknown			
Class D Warning Area	*	ort Advisory A	Area						
Aircraft Load Description (Check all that		chutists		Livestock					
Passengers Diving Banne	er 🗌 Wate	er	10 1	Unknown					
Cargo Other Externa		nical/Fertilizer	/Seeds						
FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION									
Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff (convert from pounds, as necessary)	<b>Fuel Type</b> 80/87	115/145	JP3	□ Othe	r, specify				
Gallons	100 Low Lead	🗌 Jet A	JP4		· 1 · J				
Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departur	<b>100/130</b>	Automotiv	e JP5						
other services, if Any, i flor to Departur									

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFT									
Was an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed?									
Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location									
WEATHER INFORMA			1						
Weather Observation Facility				<b>ce of Weather</b> <i>k all that apply)</i>	Information			<b>Method of Briefing</b> (Check all that apply)	
Facility ID:				ational Weather S	ervice		Company	In Person	
Observation Time:				ight Service Stati	on		Military Military	Teletype	
Time Zone:				V/Radio utomated Report			☐ Internet ☐ Unknown	Telephone/Computer Aircraft Radio	
Distance from Accident Site:				ommercial Weath	er Service (DUA	TS)		TV/Radio	
Direction from Accident Site:		rees MAG	T · ·	Con 14					
Briefing Type/Completeness		ad	0	t Condition	Duale		Dark Night	Visibility	
Partial / Limited By Pilot			Dawn Dusk Day Night				Bright Night	10 statute miles	
Partial / Limited By Briefer	Not Pertin	1				1	Not Reported		
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition	_	Ceiling	(1)		1 1		estriction to Visibility		
Clear Ew	Thin Broken Thin Overcast	None None			bscured definite		None Blowing Dust	☐ Fog ☐ Ground Fog	
Partial Obscuration Unknown Over				cast 🗌 Unknown			Blowing Sand	Haze	
Scattered							Blowing Snow Blowing Spray	☐ Ice Fog ☐ Smoke	
Lowest Cloud Condition He	ft AGL	Ceiling	Height ft AGL				Dust	Unknown	
Wind Direction	Wind Speed			Wind Gusts		T	ype of Turbulence (C	heck all that apply)	
Indicated:	Velocity: 13	KTS		Velocity: 19	KTS		None In Cl		
180 degrees MAG	-or-	K15		velocity	K15			nity of Thunderstorm	
	Calm			Gusting		Se	everity of Turbulence		
☐ Variable	Light and Var	iable	□ Not Gusting				Extreme Mod		
		LOMET						erate Chop	
NOTAMs (D, L and FDC	), AIRMETS, S	IGMETS	, PIRI	EPs in effect a	at the time of	the	e accident/incident		
Icing Forecast         Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)									
Temperature:(C)		Amou			Туре			Drizzle	
Temperature:         (C)           or         (F)		None		Moderate	Clear		🔲 Rain	Ice Pellets	
Altimeter Setting:	in. HG	Trace		Severe	Clear Mixed			Snow Pellets	
or	мв						Rain Showers	Le Crystals	
Density Altitude:	ft	cing Actua Amou			Туре		_ 0	<ul> <li>Ice Pellets Shower</li> <li>Freezing Drizzle</li> </ul>	
<b>Dew Point:</b> (C)		None		Moderate	Rime				
or(F)		Trace		Severe	Clear Mixed		Intensity of Precipi	oderate	

PILOT "A" INFORMATION										
Pilot "A" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident										
Pilot Co-Pilot Student Pilot Flight Instructor Check Pilot Flight Engineer Other Flight Crew										
Pilot "A" Identification										
First Name: William				Cit						
Middle Initial:     R     ZIP: 95476       Last Name:     Country:     United States										
Last Name: Croucher				Coi	untry: <u>Unit</u>	ed States				
Age at time of Accident/Incident:       69       Date of Birth:       Certificate Number:       1         mm/dd/yyyy       1       1       1       1       1										
Degree of Injury	Seat Occup	ied			t Belt			Shoulder H	Iarness	
None Fatal	Left	Front	Unknow	wn Used	ł	Yes [	No	Used	🗌 Yes	🗌 No
Minor Unknown	Right	☐ Rear ☐ Single		Avai	ilable	Yes [	No	Available	Yes	🗌 No
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all a	_									
□ None □ Studen		Recre	eational	Commerc	ial		Flight Engi	neer	Foreign	
	Instructor	Sport		Airline Tr			U.S. Militar			
Principal Occupation M	edical Certific	cate		Mee	dical Cert	tificate Va	lidity	Date of L	ast Medica	l
1 1101		Class 3	ense (Sport Pilot			itations/wai tions/waiver		04/02/2012		
		Unknown	ense (Sport Phot		Jnknown	lions/waiver	S		///////////////////////////////////////	
Medical Certificate Limitatio										
Medical Certificate Limitatio	ons									
Medical Certificate Waivers										
Date of Last Flight Review		Fligh	t Review Airc	eraft						
or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: 02	/08/2013	Make	SK-76							
	mm/dd/yyyy	Mode	I: Simulator							
Airplane Rating(s)	Other Aircraf		Instrum	ent Rating(s)	)	Instructo	r Rating(s)			
(Check all that apply) $\Box$	(Check all that a $\Box$ )	(pply)	(	l that apply)						
<ul> <li>☐ None</li> <li>■ Single-Engine Land</li> </ul>	☐ None ☐ Airship		None Airpla	ne	□ None □ Instrument Airplane □ Instrument Helicopter					
Single-Engine Sea	Free Balloon		Helico	opter	Airplane Multi-Engine Helicopter					liencoptei
☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Glider Gyroplane		Power	ed Lift		Gyropla			] Glider	
	Helicopter					Powere	a Litt		] Sport	
	Powered Lift	ţ								
Type Ratings BH-206; BH	H-212					Student <b>F</b>	Indorseme	nts (Include d	dates)	
Flight Time (enter appropriate	[	101 · • • • •	Airplane			Inst	rument			<b>T</b> • • •
number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Actual	Simulated	Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
Total Time	22564.7	850.3	3312.0		3745.9	657.6		19152.7		
Pilot in Command (PIC)	21751.9	796.1	2813.0		1					
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days	54.2	54.2						54.2		
Last 30 Days	19.1	19.1						19.1		
Last 24 Hours	.6	.6						.6		

PILOT "B" INFORMATION										
-	Pilot "B" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident         Pilot       Co-Pilot         Student Pilot       Flight Instructor         Check Pilot       Flight Crew									
Pilot "B" Identification										
First Name:       City:         Middle Initial:       State:         Last Name:       City:         Age at time of Accident/Incident:       Date of Birth:         Certificate Number:       Certificate Number:										
Age at time of Accident/Incide	ent: ]	Date of Bir	th: <u></u>	C	ertificate	Number:				
Degree of Injury           None         Fatal           Minor         Unknown           Serious	Right	Front Rear Single	Unknown	Se Us	at Belt ed railable	Yes Yes	] No ] No	<b>Shoulder H</b> Used Available	🗌 Yes	□ No □ No
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all										
NoneStudePrivateFligh	ent t Instructor	Recrea	ational	Commer			Flight Engin U.S. Militar	у	Foreign	
☐ Pilot	Class 1 🛛 🗌 D	lass 3	nse (Sport Pilot	only)	Without lin	rtificate Val mitations/waiv ations/waivers	/ers	Date of La	ast Medica	1
Medical Certificate Limitatio	Medical Certificate Limitations									
Medical Certificate Waivers										
Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:		Ũ	Review Airc							
	mm/dd/yyyy									
Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply) None Single-Engine Land Single-Engine Sea Multiengine Land Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s)       Instrument Ration         (Check all that apply)       (Check all that apply)         None       None         Airship       Airplane         Glider       Powered Lift         Helicopter       Powered Lift			<i>l that apply)</i> ne opter	(s)	Instructor Rating(s)         (Check all that apply)         None       Instrument Airplane         Airplane Single-Engine       Instrument Helicopter         Airplane Multi-Engine       Helicopter         Gyroplane       Glider         Powered Lift       Sport				
Student Endorsements (Include dates)										
<b>Flight Time</b> (enter appropriate number of hours in each box)		This Make & Model	Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	e Night		ument Simulated	Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)	ļ									ļ
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days					_					
Last 30 Days Last 24 Hours										

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CRE	EW MEMBERS	(Exclusive of cabin	attendants, complete the	e following infor	mation)	
Pilot Name and Address         First Name:         Middle Initial:         Last Name:		City: State: Country:	ZIP:		Degree of In       □ None       □ Minor       □ Serious	<b>jury</b> Fatal Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that         None       Student         Private       Flight Instructor         Type Rating/Endorsement for         Accident/Incident Aircraft?		Commercial Airline Transport Total Flight	Flight Engineer U.S. Military Time at the Time ent/Incident:	Foreign	Seat Occupie	ed Front Rear Single Unknown
Pilot Name and Address         First Name:		City: State: Country:	ZIP:		Degree of In	jury Fatal Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that         None       Student         Private       Flight Instructor         Type Rating/Endorsement for         Accident/Incident Aircraft?	<i>t apply)</i> Recreational Sport Yes No	Commercial Airline Transport Total Flight	Flight Engineer U.S. Military Time at the Time ent/Incident:	Foreignhrs	Seat Occupie	ed Front Rear Single Unknown
Pilot Name and Address         First Name:		State:	ZIP:		Degree of In	jury Fatal Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that         None       Student         Private       Flight Instructor         Type Rating/Endorsement for         Accident/Incident Aircraft?		Commercial Airline Transport	Flight Engineer U.S. Military Time at the Time ent/Incident:	Foreign	Seat Occupio	ed Front Rear Single Unknown
PASSENGER(S) / OTHER	PERSONNEL	(Include flight atten	dants: continue on separ	ate sheet if nece	ssarv)	
Name and Address			· · ·		Crew Non- Revenue Revenue Non- Occupant FAA	Fatal Serious Injury Minor Injury No Injury Unknown
First Name: Micheal Middle Initial: Last Name:		City: State: Country:	ZIP:			
First Name: Tim Middle Initial: Last Name: Goerhing		City: State: Country:	ZIP:			
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:		State:	ZIP:			
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:		City: State: Country:	ZIP:			
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:		City: State: Country:	ZIP:			
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:		City: State:				
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:		City: State:	ZIP:			
First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name:		City:	ZIP:			

## NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT (Please type or print in ink)

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State time and point of departure, intended destination, and services obtained.

On 15 March, 2013. N574EH took off from Lake Charles Regional Airport, LA at approximately 1119L for a maintenance operational check flight for the #2FDR not coupling to the GPS. At approximately 1139L the pilot contacted Lake Charles Tower and informed the tower he was 10 miles South and returning to the runway. At Approximately 1146L the pilot called the Lake Charles Tower and stated that he had a problem and that he had to set down. The tower asked if he was declaring an emergency, and the pilot responded with yes mamm. At approximately 1147L the tower asked the pilot to state the type of emergency, with no further response from the pilot. At the same time, the pilot called Era operations comm center and informed them that he had a problem up there and has to set it on the ground. After 1147L no more communications were received from the crew. The aircraft crashed at approximately 1147L time, approximately 5.5 miles south east of the approach end to runway 33 at Lake Charles Regional Airport. The aircraft caught on fire, and there was an ground explosion. First responders from Era arrived at the accident scene at approximately 1200L. The aircraft was on fire, and the impact crater was small and not very deep. Consistent with high inertia vertical impact with no forward momentum. The crater was approximately 100 feet in diameter. There was evidence of some post crash grass fire, and some scattered debris. Most of the wreckage remained in the impact crater. Access to the site was limited, and the fire rescue services had to be airlifted in by helicopter. The fire burned for approximately 2 to 3 hours before it was able to be extinguished.

## **RECOMMENDATION** (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE									
Date of this Report	Signature	and Name of Pilot/Operator							
03/21/2013	Signature:								
mm/dd/yyyy	Type or Print Name: Steven C. McNeely								
Signature and Name	of Person	Filing Report if Other than Pilot/Operato	or						
Signature:									
Type or Print Name:									
Title:									
FOR NTSB USE ONLY									
NTSB Accident/Incid CEN13FA1		Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office Denver	Name of Investigator Folkerts	Date Report Received 3/21/2013					