

Docket No. SA-539

Exhibit No. 5-H

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Washington, D.C.

Meteorology – Attachment 9

(2 Pages)

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 03, 2016 3:16 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Balloon incident Lockhart Texas 7/30/16

Sent: Wednesday, August 3, 2016 10:15:41 PM (UTC+00:00) [REDACTED]

Subject: Balloon incident Lockhart Texas 7/30/16

All concerned,

At the urging of my brother-in-law, who is an instructor pilot, I am relaying what i observed the morning of the incident just west of Lockhart Tx involving the hot air balloon/multiple fatalities.

I work in Buda Texas, and utilize FM 2001 as my daily route between Lockhart and Buda Texas. At one point this road is about a mile from the crash site.

On the morning of 7/30 i left my house at 730am as usual to drive to Buda. I used Stueve Ln of State Hwy 142 to access FM 2001. As i drove north on Stueve lane, i noted a thick bank of fog hovering over the area north of town but no fog at ground level. Turning west on FM 2001 i noted this fog was fairly dense and seemed to me to be about 50-70 feet off the ground as i saw that it was above the State Hwy 130 overpass as i proceeded on FM 2001, Just past this intersection FM 2001 takes a 90 degree turn west and is basically looking at the crash site if you look at a map. I usually am able to see the Powerline towers clearly and on this morning I noticed i could see only the bases of the nearest towers as i approached the 90 degree turn back to the north, This was about 7:40am. I was amazed that I could not see the top of the towers and could only see the bases except where the tall corn plants blocked my view and looking back to the east the sun looked like a dim pale light the fog was that dense you could look directly at the sun with no problem. I never saw a balloon in the air, so other than what i observed of the fog have no other information for you. my brother in law felt that my proximity and the time line might help lend some clarity to the investigation so hope this helps.

Regards,