



ATTACHMENT 3

AIRWORTHINESS GROUP CHAIRMAN'S FACTUAL REPORT

CEN13FA192

Smithsonian Institute Feather Identification Lab Memo (1 Page)



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

Chich Shin
NTSB
Aviation engineering Division (AS-40)
Washington, DC

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

22 October 2013

RE: Case #NTSB No. CEN13FA192

Dear Mr. Shin,

The 46 separate samples collected from the Sikorsky S76-A (N574EH) by Mr. Dwight LeBlanc (USDA Wildlife Services, LA) on 24 September 2013 have been examined using microscopy and DNA analysis. No bird remains were found in any of the samples. Mr. LeBlanc conducted a very thorough and systematic sampling of the aircraft and included photographs that corresponded with each sample collecting sight. We analyzed each separate bag multiple times for microscopic evidence and once each for DNA analysis.

The samples that Mr. LeBlanc sent confirm our initial findings in August 2013 that no bird remains were found in association with the material examined from this event. Given the excellent job that Mr. LeBlanc did on the field sampling, I feel confident that we have now conducted a very thorough examination.

If you find more evidence, or have any questions, please call.

Good luck with this investigation.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Carla J. Dove, Ph.D.
Feather Identification Lab
Smithsonian Institution
NHB E-600, MRC 116

[REDACTED]