

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Damage Assessment Update - N19BH (Bell 206L-4 Helicopter) @ Hibbing, MN
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 14:35:04

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Hi Mike,

We are treating this incident as a sudden stoppage. The pilot could not advise if there was any change in the rotor RPM but based on what the mechanic saw, we will treat it as such. The maintenance manual dictates the following:

Scrap T/R blades and hub assembly
Overhaul the tail rotor pitch change mechanism
Overhaul the tail rotor gearbox
Overhaul the freewheel assembly
Inspect all components of the tail rotor drive train and send out for NDT.
There are other things to inspect but these items are the major inspections.

The aircraft is still in Hibbing. We hope to have it in BRD tonight. We won't know if there is any other damage until we open it up. I will be back in the office Thursday and will start working on it. I can report back if we find anything major if you'd like. Please understand these inspections will take some time.

Thank you,

Jason E. Hunt, Director of Maintenance

Brainerd Helicopter Services Inc.

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Brainerd, MN 56401

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From: Hodges Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:06 PM
To: Jason Hunt [REDACTED]
Cc: Sindt, Daniel L (FAA) [REDACTED]; Crookshanks Clinton [REDACTED]
Subject: Damage Assessment Update - N19BH (Bell 206L-4 Helicopter) @ Hibbing, MN

Hi Jason,

I hope things are going well up in MN.

I am looking into the recent event with N19BH (Bell 206L-4 helicopter). I am working with Dan Sindt (CCed on this email) from the FAA Minneapolis FSDO and Clint Crookshanks, our lead structures engineer at the NTSB (CCed on this email).

I understand that the tail rotor blades have various gouges and a dent from the impact with the backpack, that was on the ground. A few questions please:

1. Is the plan to replace both of the tail rotor blades?
2. For the damage sustained to the tail rotor blades, does it exceed the repair limits in the structural repair manual?
3. Was there any damage sustained to the drive train system (such as the tail rotor drive shaft, the tail rotor gear box, etc.) from the backpack impact? I assume there will be a sudden stoppage inspection?

We are trying to make a damage assessment on the event, and any information on the damage found and the replacement/repair plans would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your help.

Mike

Mike J. Hodges, MS
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“Don’t let yesterday use up too much of today.” – Will Rogers

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