

RECORD OF ☒ VISIT ☐ CONFERENCE OR ☐ TELEPHONE CALL		TIME 1:30 PM	DATE 07/12/2016
NAME (S) OF PERSON (S) CONTACTED OR IN CONFERENCE AND LOCATION Trent Pendel [REDACTED] lineman for TVA		ROUTING SYMBOL INITIALS	
eyewitness to N427TV accident			
SUBJECT CE17ACC1015 N427TV			
DIGEST Mr. Pendel said he was inside at TVA when he heard the helicopter approaching. He went outside (through the shop) to watch the aircraft land. He stood just outside the western most garage door (see diagram). He heard the helicopter approach from the south and saw it make a left-hand circling approach to the east and north of the parking lot/landing spot. The witness confirmed that there was a light wind from the south/southeast and the helicopter appeared to be making its final approach from the north. The witness stated that there were no abnormalities in sound or position, until the aircraft was approximately 100 to 75 feet above the ground. (The witness estimated the height using nearby buildings and trees for reference.) At approximately 100 feet, the main rotor abruptly tilted to the the aircraft's right. The witness was positive that the main rotor "banked" prior to the rest of the helicopter. Very quickly after that, the entire helicopter banked to its right and fell to the ground. The witness never lost sight of the aircraft. He described the impact as very hard, with no sliding or bouncing. He saw the rotor blades break apart. The witness then ran into the building to get help. Mr. Pendel is a lineman for TVA and has been working on the helicopters for			
CONCLUSION, ACTION TAKEN, OR REQUIRED			
DATE 07/13/2016	TITLE Aviation Safety Inspector	SIGNATURE	

approximately 2 years. When lines are not accessible from the ground, it is his job to ride on the helicopter platform (power bench) and transfer to the top of the powerline pole to perform maintenance on the lines. Although Mr. Pendel does not work on the Bell 407 (he stated he is too heavy), he felt firmly that up until the main rotor began its bank to the right, the approach was normal with no indication of anything abnormal.