



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Brian C. Rayner
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: November 1, 2019

Person Contacted: John Oates – Tower Controller – Barkley Regional Airport (PAH)

NTSB Accident Number: ERA20FA026 Paducah, KY

Narrative:

Mr. Oates was an air traffic controller who was on duty in the tower at PAH at the time of the accident. He was interviewed at the accident site, and the following is a summary of the interview.

Mr. Oates said he was familiar with the pilot and the accident airplane. He said that the pilot checked in on the tower frequency and he provided the pilot with the current altimeter, wind, and active runway information. The pilot informed him that he was "lined up" for a straight-in landing to runway 14 which he requested, and Mr. Oates approved. Mr. Oates advised the airplane was "cleared to land" which the pilot acknowledged. Approximately 1.5 minutes later, the pilot advised, "I've lost power." Mr. Oates asked the pilot if he thought the airplane would reach the runway, and the pilot responded, "Yes." Soon after, the pilot advised, "I'm not going to make it, I'm in the trees." There were no further communications from the accident airplane.

The airplane collided with trees and terrain, aligned with runway 14 at PAH, about 1.5 miles prior to the landing threshold.