

# Recommendation Report

Wednesday, August 01, 2007

LOG:h-0410\*

**Log Number H-0410**

**Issue Date 7/19/1984**

**MUS RIVER, GREENWICH CT**

**6/28/1983**

ON JUNE 28, 1983, A 100-FOOT-LONG SUSPENDED SPAN BETWEEN PIERS 20 AND 21 OF THE EASTBOUND TRAFFIC LANES OF THE INTERSTATE ROUTE 95 HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE MIANUS RIVER IN GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT, COLLAPSED AND FELL 70 FEET INTO THE RIVER BELOW. TWO TRACTOR-SEMITRAILERS AND TWO AUTOMOBILES PLUNGED INTO THE VOID IN THE BRIDGE AND WERE DESTROYED BY IMPACT FROM THE FALL. THREE VEHICLE OCCUPANTS DIED, AND THE OTHER THREE RECEIVED SERIOUS INJURIES. THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD DETERMINED THAT THE PROBABLE CAUSE OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE MIANUS RIVER BRIDGE SPAN WAS THE UNDETECTED LATERAL DISPLACEMENT OF THE HANGERS OF THE PIN AND HANGER SUSPENSION ASSEMBLY IN THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SPAN BY CORROSION-INDUCED FORCES DUE TO DEFICIENCIES IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT'S BRIDGE SAFETY INSPECTION AND BRIDGE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.

**Recommendation # H-84-056**

**Overall Status  
CAA**

**Priority**

THE NTSB RECOMMENDS THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: DIRECT THE DOT INSPECTOR GENERAL TO REVIEW THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION'S BRIDGE INSPECTION AUDIT PROGRAM FOR ITS SUFFICIENCY IN ESTABLISHING STATE COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL BRIDGE INSPECTION STANDARDS.

DOT

Closed - Acceptable Action

1/27/1988

11/15/1984 Addressee DOT LETTER: THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL (OIG) THIS YEAR WILL EXPAND THREE PLANNED AUDITS OF FHWA'S BRIDGE PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE COVERAGE OF BRIDGE INSPECTION. THE REVIEW WILL INVOLVE FHWA HEADQUARTERS AND TWO FHWA REGIONAL OFFICES AND INCLUDE AN EVALUATION OF FHWA'S POLICY AND EACH OFFICE'S ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES. WE ALSO PLAN TO REVIEW FHWA'S EFFECTIVENESS IN ASSURING STATE COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS.

2/19/1985 NTSB

1/27/1988 Addressee

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**Total Number of Recommendations for Recommendation Report: 1**

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**Selection for Report:**

**LOG:h-0410\***