



**NTSB** National Transportation Safety Board

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*Office of Aviation Safety*

# **Fatigue and Commuting**

Human Performance  
presentation

# Role of Fatigue - Precursors

- Captain
  - Reduced sleep opportunities
  - Stayed overnight in crew room
  - Accessed company computer at 0310
  - Accident occurred at normal bedtime
- First officer
  - Overnight transcontinental commute
  - Slept on airplanes and in crew room

# Role of Fatigue - Performance

- Performance inconsistent with past reports
- Performance not degraded throughout flight, and errors not specific to fatigue
- Both pilots likely experiencing some fatigue, but its role in performance cannot be determined

# Fatigue Mitigation

- Safety recommendations issued addressing fatigue
  - Most Wanted List since 1990
  - Safety Recommendation A-06-10
- FAA has not issued science-based fatigue NPRM
- Flight and duty time not issue in this accident

# Fatigue and Commuting

- Commuting may be necessity
  - Base closures
  - Cost of living
- All pilots have responsibility to arrive for work rested

# Fatigue and Commuting

- Most of Colgan's pilots at EWR commuted
- Guidance did not address ways to mitigate fatigue from commuting
  - same-day commuting not discouraged
  - crew room policy not enforced
- After accident, Colgan revised training and provided fatigue guidance

# Fatigue and Commuting

- Mitigation strategies include
  - Providing rest facilities
  - Identifying affordable accommodations
  - Planning flight schedules that support commuting



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