U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

July 20, 2017

Ms. Tara Underwood Senior Manager, Technical Compliance Nissan North America, Inc. One Nissan Way Franklin, TN 37027

Subject: Driver Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

Dear Ms. Underwood:

This letter serves to acknowledge Nissan North America, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years: NISSAN/VERSA/2007-2012

Mfr's Report Date: July 17, 2017

NHTSA Campaign Number: 17V-449

**Components:** AIR BAGS:FRONTAL:DRIVER SIDE INFLATOR MODULE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 515,394

## **Problem Description:**

Nissan North America, Inc. (Nissan) is recalling certain 2007-2011 Versa Sedan and 2007-2012 Versa Hatchback vehicles. The affected vehicles have a driver frontal air bag inflator that may rupture due to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to moderate absolute humidity, temperatures, and temperature cycling.

## **Consequence:**

An inflator rupture may result in metal fragments striking the driver or other occupants resulting in serious injury or death.

## **Remedy:**

Nissan will notify owners, and dealers will replace the subject inflator with a new one manufactured by a different supplier, free of charge. Remedy parts are not currently available. An interim owner notification letter will be sent by the end of September 2017, followed by a second letter when remedy parts are available. Owners may contact Nissan customer service at 1-800-647-7261.

## Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-150SM 17V-449

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is required that owners be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer Timian Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations Enforcement

