

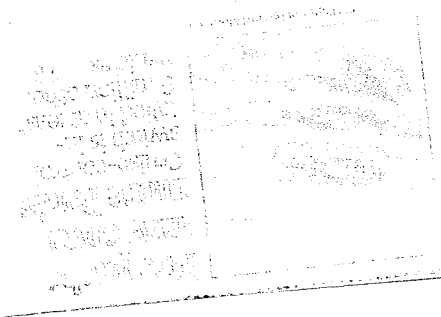
CL-10113725-9436

D.O.T.; It is going on three years since I sent you this letter and now that they are having another recall involving Ford vehicles, I will renew my complaint. How long should I wait for someone to take notice?

The vehicle is still parked in my yard waiting for somebody to investigate on it. What is the hold up???

Cruse-control device may
related to engine fires

More cars have suspect switch



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The cruse-control switch that led federal officials in March to begin investigating 3.7 million Ford pickups and SUVs because the switch was linked to engine fires is on at least 6 million additional Ford vehicles, the company acknowledges.

So far, no engine fires have been definitively linked to the cruse-control switch in the seven additional models, including the 1997-2002 Explorer and the 2001-02 Escape. But the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is monitoring reports of fires in those vehicles and could expand its investigation to include some or all of them, according to two people with direct knowledge.

Models in addition to the Explorer and Escape, Ford says, are: the 1997-2002 Mercury Mountaineer, Ford Ranger, Econoline, Windstar and Explorer Sport Pac. NHTSA documents show its inquiry is focused on a cruse-control deactivation switch that can overheat. That switch has been linked to engine fires on Ford F-150 pickups and Ford Expedition and Lincoln Navigator SUVs. NHTSA would not comment.

The agency has been investigating at least 218 reports of fires in 3.7 million 1995-99 and 2001-02 F-150s and 1997-99 and 2001-02 Expeditions and Navigators, all of them while the vehicles were parked. No injuries or deaths have been reported. But there have been reports of homes, garages and sheds catching fire after the vehicles did.

Ford recalled 750,000 2000 model-year F-150s, Expeditions and Navigators in January.

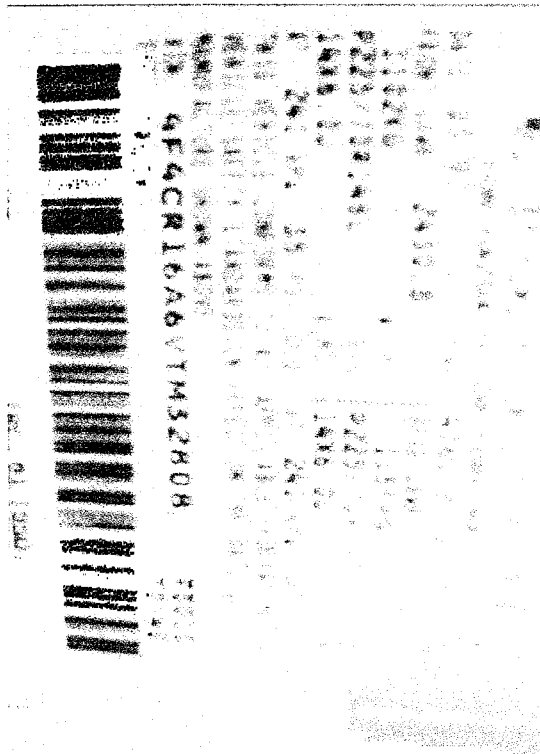
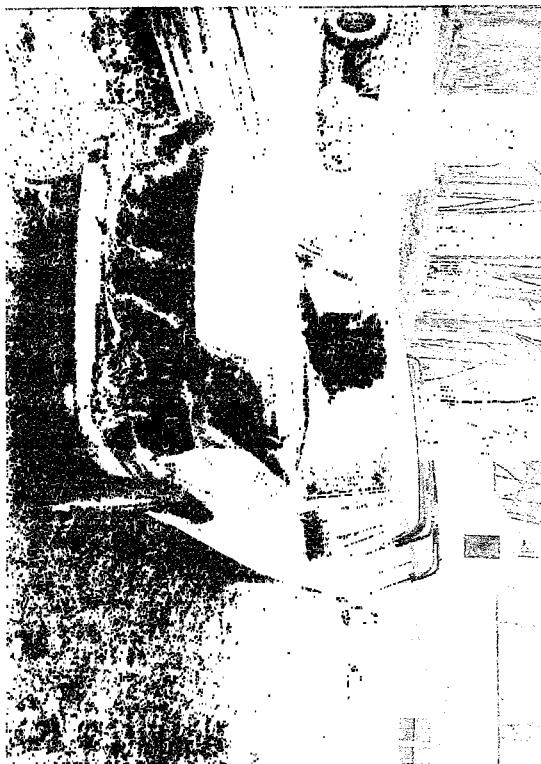
The cruse-control switch, made by Texas Instruments, was discontinued midway through the 2002 model year. It was replaced with one made by Hitachi, Ford says. Spokeswoman Gail Chandler says Texas In-

struments doesn't believe there is a safety defect.

Ford spokeswoman Kristen Kenley says the change was made before Ford received reports of increased incidences of fires in the pickups and SUVs. But NHTSA records show the company had already received complaints of engine compartment fires in 1992-97 Lincoln Town Cars, Ford Crown Victorias and Mercury Grand Marquis models that had an almost identical switch. Ford recalled the 1992 and 93 models in 1999. Houston plaintiff's lawyer Willie Jolly says he has several clients whose houses were burned after F-150s that are under investigation or were part of the recall had caught fire. He has also represented several owners of the 1990s Ford cars that caught fire.

Ford and NHTSA are trying to figure out why some vehicles with the switch seem more prone to catching fire.

Kenley says Ford is looking into "dozens of factors," including whether the risk of fire varies depending on the switch's location in a particular vehicle and its proximity to such components as the master cylinder.



2-17-05

Hello; Today I ran across an ad that was in the Bulletin magazine which is put out out by AARP. It gave me your address and a place to maybe get some help on a complaint I have.

Last fall my 1997 Mazda pick-up truck caught fire in a parking lot while unattended. This vehicle was made by Ford for Mazda. I have been to the local Ford dealers with pictures and have received no results or even interest other than my insurance company should take care of it. I am retired and can not afford all the coverage on my social security, only what is required by law. There fore the cost of the lost has fallen on me which is not my fault at all.

The vehicle was parked in a parking lot where I had left it while at an auction house and had caught on fire all by it's self. several witnesses watched it burn. The fire company came and extinguished it, but it is a total loss. They busted out the windshield and ripped open the hood to get at the fire as you can see from the picture.

Had this happened while the vehicle was parked in my garage my house would have burned down also.

This complaint should be noted and others be warned as the tow truck driver said that it was most likely caused by sticking contacts in the electrical system.

The truck is parked at my house for any inspection which may be necessary

I thank you for any help you may send my way.

Corbin, Kentucky

Phone