

APR 20 2005

[REDACTED]
Utopia, NY [REDACTED]

NVS-216 mec
Ref. No. 10117098

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your correspondence dated March 16, 2005, concerning a problem you have encountered with the horn in your model year (MY) 2003 Chevrolet Venture minivan. Your correspondence was received on March 24, 2005.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain serious safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. We cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. Each report is analyzed and entered into a database to help us determine whether an investigation into a possible safety defect is warranted.

NHTSA is aware of the General Motors Corporation's (GM) Technical Service Bulletin (TSB) (Article No. PI0088B, copy enclosed) concerning a weak or nonfunctioning horn in certain MY 2003 and 2004 GM vehicles, which include the Chevrolet Venture minivan. However, the issuance of a TSB does not necessarily reflect the existence of a safety-related defect in accordance with the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Neither GM nor NHTSA has determined that the vehicles in question contain such a defect.

A review of our database relative to reported problems associated with the communications system, specifically the horn assembly, in MY 2003 and 2004 Chevrolet Venture, Oldsmobile Silhouette, Pontiac Montana, Pontiac Aztek, and Buick Rendezvous vehicles revealed insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation at this time. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.

If further assistance is needed, please contact Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director of NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation, at (202) 366-2850.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Ronald L. Medford
Senior Associate Administrator
for Vehicle Safety

Enclosure

NHTSA: NVS-210: General Response
NVS-216: mec x66257
NHTSA Control No. ES05-002568
ODI Control No. 10117098
Draft: mec 03/31/05
Revised: mjj 04/01/05
Final: mjj 04/19/05
cc:
NEC-110, NVS-010
NVS-200, NVS-216
Subject/Chron/Optical Disk/CRD
I:\Congress FY2005\10117098