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Morristown, NJ

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Administrator
 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
 400 Seventh Street, SW
 Washington, DC 40990

October 20, 2005

Dear Sirs and Madams:

I wanted to make you aware of a new potential safety issue relating to the rear emergency brake on the 2002 Chevrolet Suburban.

I recently received a safety recall notice concerning a corrosion defect in certain models of the 2002 Suburban that could cause the front hub/bearing assembly and wheel speed sensor to fail. Thank you for this recall as I had the exact problem described in the recall which I had repaired last April. I applied for reimbursement from GM yesterday by mail.

Coincidentally, just as I received the above mentioned recall notice, my 2002 Suburban failed NJ State Inspection because the emergency brake would not hold. My mechanic showed me that the rear brake backing plates were completely corroded along with the rear emergency brake and they needed replacement. I believe that such a condition on a relatively new car represents a clear defect, and because it causes the emergency brake to fail represents a serious safety concern. My mechanic noted that he has seen this same condition in six other similar late model Suburbans recently and thought it was highly unusual. While not a scientific study it bears investigation. I remember when I complained about the early failure of the front antilock brake system (now subject to the current recall), the dealer said it was nothing unusual. I got the same story today from the dealer concerning the rear emergency brake.

I would not be surprised if the corrosion problem with the front brakes is related to the corrosion problem with the rear emergency brake, especially if the brake components came from the same supplier.

I contacted GM today and they noted my complaint about the rear emergency brake but said that it was not covered under warranty or included in the current recall.

*Anna Maria
 11/23/05*

Please advise if there is any other action I can or should take to pursue this issue or any other information I can provide. Thank you for looking after our safety.

Best regards,



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