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Muncy Valley, PA [REDACTED]

10144288

November 10, 2005

NHTSA
U S Department of Transportation
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter sent to KIA Motors America, Inc.

Today I sent a letter to Kia Motors America, Inc. regarding a safety issue. I had a 2002 Kia Spectra Sedan which was involved in a severe frontal accident. Neither the driver's side or the passenger side airbags deployed. I thought you might like to have this information. Following is an excerpt from that letter:

The 2002 KIA Spectra Sedan, slate blue that I own was in an accident. Pictures are enclosed. Your Owner's manual states on page 8-33, "If you ever have a severe frontal collision, your airbags will instantly inflate to help protect you from serious injury." My car was in a frontal accident (deemed a total loss), neither the driver's side or the passenger side airbag inflated. Pictures of both sides are enclosed. The driver's head hit the windshield and he was unconscious. I always believed that the airbags were there to insure the safety of myself, and my passenger. KIA Motors America, Inc. advertises that the current models have six airbags. If they deploy as well as the two that were installed in the 2002 Spectra Sedan, they offer absolutely no safety whatever.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Encls.

cc: NHTSA

*Answer
11/24/05*