

2006 MAR -2 PM 2:34

February 19, 2006

Ford Motor Company

Dear Sir or Madam:

On Friday, February 17, 2006 my wife and I could have become a statistic because of a vehicle defect.

We were traveling west bound on I-80 from Cheyenne, Wyoming. We just passed the summit (mile post 323) with an elevation of 8640 feet. The temperature was below zero. As we started descending down the 5-percent grade toward Laramie I suddenly realized that the throttle was stuck open. Slow trucks were in the right lane and I moved into the icy left lane to brake and avoid vehicles. After 5-miles we reached the bottom and I took an exit where I felt I could safely stop my vehicle and turn it off. I barely stopped at the red traffic signal at the end of the exit avoiding traffic in the intersection. I managed to get my vehicle safely off the road and turned off.

We had the vehicle towed to the only place open on the Friday night, Laramie GM Auto Center, Inc (see attached). The Ford Dealership across the street was closed. The Auto Center located a bulletin (see attached) indicating that the throttle sticks after steady state driving in cold ambient temperatures in 1997 Expeditions, the exact same situation we just went through.

My vehicle is a 1997 Ford Expedition, 4WD, VIN 1FMEU1 [REDACTED]. We bought the vehicle on November 27, 1998 from the Ford dealership in Olympia, Washington. The bulletin had an October 26, 1998 date.

This was a very scary event and could have turned into a disaster especially on an icy road and a 5 percent downhill grade. It caused us lost of time and money, finding transportation back to Cheyenne and transportation back to Laramie to retrieve our vehicle. As such, I am very dissatisfied with Ford and their repair policies. I thought the vehicle was safe when we bought it. At the very least I would have thought the throttle problem would have identified through bulletins and been taken care of during the number of times we have had the vehicle into the Ford shops for service. But then again, we are still waiting for the cruise control to be repaired from a recall last fall.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cheyenne, WY [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

cc: NHTSA Headquarters

Attachments

NAR
aak
3/6/06

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LARAMIE GM AUTO CENTER

Select Vehicle | New

TSBs | Technician's Reference

Component Search: OK Conversion Calculator**1997 Ford Truck Expedition 4WD V8-281 4.6L VIN W EFI**

Vehicle Level → Technical Service Bulletins → All Technical Service Bulletins
 → Engine - High Idle Speeds/Throttle Sticks ←

Engine - High Idle Speeds/Throttle Sticks

No

Article No.
98-21-10

96559

10/26/98

IDLE - HIGH IDLE SPEEDS - THROTTLE STICKS
 AFTER STEADY STATE DRIVING IN COLD AMBIENT
 TEMPERATURES - VEHICLES BUILT THROUGH
 12/1/97 EQUIPPED WITH 4.6L ENGINE

LIGHT TRUCK:
 1997-98 EXPEDITION, F-150, F-250 LD

ISSUE

The vehicles identified in this TSB article should be equipped with an insulated PCV tube that was installed in production or under Recall 965. This insulation provides protection from PCV backflow due to ice in the system created during steady speed driving in extremely cold weather. In those extreme cases where the insulated PCV tube does not completely eliminate throttle body icing due to PCV backflow, a service kit has been developed that will make these vehicles even less susceptible to PCV freezing.

ACTION

Verify that the condition is not caused by throttle body sludging, throttle binding, or interference between an improperly positioned floor mat and an accelerator pedal. If no other conditions are identified, replace the PCV hose.

and throttle body adapter provided with the appropriate service kit. Rel the Instruction Sheet included in the kit for installation details.

PART NUMBER	PART NAME
F85Z-6A603-CB	Service Kit - 4.6L Romeo Engi
F85Z-6A603-AB	Service Kit - 4.6L Windsor En

OTHER APPLICABLE ARTICLES: NONE

WARRANTY STATUS: Eligible Under The Provisions Of Bumper To Bumper Warranty Coverage And Emissions Warranty Coverage

OPERATION	DESCRIPTION	TIME
982110A	Install Service kit	1.1 Hr.

DEALER CODING

BASIC PART NO.	CONDITION CODE
9E926	42

OASIS CODES: 404000, 610000, 610600, 612000, 612600, 617400, 619400

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