



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 4, 2008

[REDACTED]
Riverside, CA [REDACTED]

NVS-216 nlm
Ref. # 10214623

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your correspondence dated March 19, 2008, concerning the Sumitomo tire on your model year (MY) 2004 Kia Spectra. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation received your correspondence on April 1, 2008.

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. However, we cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

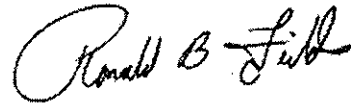
We appreciate the report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. A review of our database relative to problems associated with Sumitomo tire problems in MY 2004 Kia Spectra vehicles revealed no reports of problems similar to that which you encountered; therefore, there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety defect investigation at this time. Additionally, due to the lack of supportive information it will not be necessary for NHTSA to inspect the Sumitomo tires. A brochure explaining the investigation process is enclosed for your information. 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.

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment in the future, you can complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at



<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq>. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at <http://www.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald B. Fields". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ronald" being the most prominent.

Ronald B. Fields, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

Enclosure:

Motor Vehicle Defects and Recall Campaigns brochure