TO: NHTSA Headqtrs CL-10252409-1773NVS-200
1200 New Jersey Ave SE, West Bldg
Wash. DC 20590

I am writing this letter in regards to a defect in the 2002 isuzu rodeo. In November FY07 I purchased a 2002 rodeo with 54,000+ miles, and within the first couple of months of only having driven short distances I experience transmission problems. It was only luck that I did not take it own a road trip, as am sure I would have been on the side of the road

It was at this time I discovered that there is no way for Me or any Lay/Non mechanic to check the transmission level. Which means that the only way to know that the level is low or if there is a transmission leak, is when you experience transmission problems, such as stalling, hard to go in gear, or jerking hard before going into gear.

It is the ASININE to me that I have to take it to a mechanic to have the transmission level checked. Not only can't I check the transmission level due to the placement under the bottom of the vehicle, but isuzu didn't bother to put a warning signal that would come/show up on the dash (like the low fuel or oil, brake, battery or engine light.)

In my 55 years it never occurred to me that a car manufacture can build a vehicle and not have a somewhat simple way to check ANY fluid level, but in PARTICULAR the transmission fluid level on a SUV; many of which are ALREADY PRONE to have transmission problems; is mind blogging.

During my research on the internet of car reports; such as reliability, cost, etc, not any of those car reports pointed out this design flaw, so as a consumer I was not provided information that would have allowed me to make a better informed car purchase.

I don't understand how the national highway safety commission would not have some authority to recall or provide some punitive measure/s against Isuzu for this defect.

Most buyers of the 2002 rodeo are not aware of the defect, unfortunately, until the transmission fails or there is an accident due to the defect.

I am writing this letter to inform others of this defect, since the only people who seem aware are of course those who benefit, Isuzu, car warranty companies that deny transmission claims; and mechanics who check the transmission level and repair transmissions.

This letter is also written in the event I have future transmission problems due to no fault of my own, but due to Isuzu's poorly designed 2002 Rodeo, and to document that I have made concerned parties aware.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Roanoke, VA [redacted]

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