

INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF  
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

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JUN 03 2010

CL-10264688-9324

[Redacted]  
Ojai, CA [Redacted]

May 27, 2010

US Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects Investigation (NVS-210)  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington DC 20590

Re: Follow up information  
ODI ID Number 10264688  
Tire valve recall, Dill ACP

Dear Sirs/Madams:

My initial complaint was by certified mail dated 3/30/09 and was answered by NHSTA in a letter dated 4/23/09.

Additional information was faxed 4/30/09 and then re-faxed 9/28/09 when I was unable to confirm it had been received. More recently I am unable to confirm that the fax was attached to the original complaint. A copy is therefore enclosed.

This additional information, among other matters, pointed out that the defective valve which was the subject of my complaint was not correctly described on the Sears invoice documenting the purchase and my name, address, etc. The invoice showed a valve specified as TR-413, normal for my tire, as opposed to the TR-418 that was defective.

So that the record is complete, these other instances of interchanging different sized valves or wrongly invoicing the valves should be noted in reference to the original complaint:

- Sears replaced the remaining valves free of charge with TR-413 valves but described them on the invoice as TR-418.
- Recently when I purchased two new tires at America's Tire in Ventura CA, TR-412 valves were initially installed rather than TR-413 since the dealer did not have the TR-413 in stock. The dealer thought the shorter size did not make any difference, saying the base was the same, but testing the tire pressure was made more difficult and so the valves were replaced at my request.
- Another dealer spoke of using the longer TR-418 as not making any difference.

Whether any of this has relevance to the issues underlying the recall, I do not know, but for the record it is submitted.

Additionally, you should note that with regard to my original complaint and the additional information I am providing you have authorization to provide my identifying information (name, address, telephone number etc.) to the manufacturer or others with a legitimate purpose.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

NM  
061810  
TGW

[Redacted]  
Ojai, CA  
Phone [Redacted]  
E-mail [Redacted]

April 30, 2009

Department of Transportation  
NHTSA  
Office of Defects Investigation  
FAX 202-366-1767

Re: ODI ID Number 10264688  
My letter to you of March 30, 2009

Following is additional information to note in regard to the faulty tire valve that is the subject of the above complaint.

The valve stems purchased in July 2007 in conjunction with the purchase of the two BF Goodrich tires is described on the Sears invoice as "1.25 in", but as seems from measurement and as confirmed by the manager at Sears Auto Center recently, the defective valve is actually 2 in. The manager did not know what the reason might have been for installing a longer valve than what was described on the invoice but assured me that this had nothing to do with the tire deflation described in my letter. (Note that the defective valve came from one of the two BF Goodrich tires. The two other tires, purchased several years earlier, were distinguishable by virtue of being a different brand, namely "General".)

To the extent that both the long and short valve models were the same brand and were both recallable, it does not seem that the discrepancy between the invoice and what was actually installed would have affected notification for the recall. However, I do not know this for sure. On the Sears invoice the only information provided is Item # PS 09598733 and "Valve, rubber 1.25 in".

Also to note:

- Search results at Office of Defects Investigation for my complaint gives 4/1/09 as the Date of Failure, but as described in my letter the correct date is on or close to 3/22/09.
- The Dill company toll-free number given at your website at Recalls-Search Results for owners to contact in regard to the recall of Dill-ACP TR-418 is not operative.
- Fred's Tire Man (mentioned in my 3/30 letter) is ready to reimburse me for the \$15 charged if Sears does not but complains of lack of timely reimbursement on the part of Dill and of dollar amount not covering costs.
- Sears did not want defective part returned to send on to Dill, saying Dill was asking for such parts only from certain dealers.

Again, please contact me if more information is needed.

Sincerely,  
[Redacted]

Ojai, CA

7009 2250 0000 8424 5127

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT  
OF THE RETURN ADDRESS, FOLD AT DOTTED LINE

**CERTIFIED MAIL™**



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