



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

April 30, 2009

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Bridgeport, CT [REDACTED]

NVS-216 nlm
Ref. # 10265399

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your correspondence dated April 15, concerning your model year (MY) 2003 BMW 3-series vehicle. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation received your correspondence on April 24, 2009.

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 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. You submitted a petition to the agency to investigate whether model year (MY) 2003 BMW 3-series vehicles contain a safety-related defect that causes the tail light bulbs to fail prematurely. NHTSA has already received a petition concerning this matter. The agency's Office of Defects Investigation analyzes all data to determine whether the petition should be granted. Each petition, like each investigation, must be examined carefully and according to its facts, including detailed assessments of each consumer report received, reports acquired from insurance companies, state accident reports, reports obtained from the manufacturer, and test reports that are performed by independent laboratories. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered in analyzing all relevant information.

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.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Reid".

Randy Reid, Chief
Correspondence Research Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement