

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



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

February 17, 2011

[REDACTED]
Beverly Hills, CA [REDACTED]

NVS-216 et
Ref. No. 10378891

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence that was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA), Office of Defects Investigation regarding your model year (MY) 2003 Audi A6 vehicle.

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 motor vehicle equipment when our investigations indicate that they contain safety defects in their design, construction, or performance. We also monitor the adequacy of manufacturers' recall campaigns. In order for the agency to initiate an investigation, we look carefully at the body of consumer complaints and other available data to determine whether a defect may exist. 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. In your letter, you indicate that you encountered a problem with the fuel tank leaking in your MY 2003 Audi A6. You feel your problem is similar to the recall (NHTSA Safety Recall No. 08V-157) that addresses fuel tank leaks from defective fuel rollover valves in certain Audi A6 Quattro and All Road models. You did report this issue to your local Audi dealership twice; however, they refused to provide a cost-free remedy because your vehicle is not included in the recall. You believe your vehicle should be included in the aforementioned recall. In addition, you request assistance in obtaining reimbursement from Audi for the repair you paid for by a local mechanic.

We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists with regard to problems associated with the fuel system, specifically for leaking fuel tank rollover valves in 2003 Audi A6 vehicles. At this time, there is insufficient evidence to warrant

an investigation. In addition, we have no plans to order Volkswagen/Audi to expand the scope of NHTSA Safety Recall No. 08V-157 to include 2-wheel-drive Audi A6 vehicles. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered with other reports to identify any safety defect or recall inadequacy 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, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ivoq or call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236. Also, a summary listing of vehicle owners' complaints, safety recalls, manufacturers' service bulletins, etc. can be obtained at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/problems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Reid". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Randy" and last name "Reid" clearly distinguishable.

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