



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

JUL 26 2011

NVS-216 nam
Ref. No. 10398289

[REDACTED]
Oakland, CA [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence to Secretary LaHood concerning your model year (MY) 2008 Hyundai Elantra vehicle. The Office of the Secretary forwarded your correspondence to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) and asked that we respond to you directly.

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 this report and the previous report you provided. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. Our records show that on April 29, 2011, you filed a complaint with NHTSA's Vehicle Safety Hotline, which we located under complaint No. 10398289. Information submitted by owners is automatically entered into our complaint database. ODI reviews and analyzes the data to determine whether an investigation is warranted. In your letter you indicate that the engine in your MY 2008 Hyundai Elantra will vibrate, shudder, hesitate, and feels like it may stall. You also stated that the instrument panel lights cut off for no reason. You took your vehicle to an authorized dealer for diagnosis and repair but the dealer was unable to duplicate your experience.

We have reviewed our database and have not identified a safety defect trend with regard to the instrument panel lighting issue you described. However, we did locate two recalls (enclosed) that appear to be applicable to your vehicle.

NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 11V-143 concerns the front passenger seat weight classification system designed to control activation of the right frontal airbag. There is a risk of contamination of system electronics that could result in deployment of the airbag in a crash

that does not warrant its operation. We also identified NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 08V-429 involving repair or replacement of the fuel pump to address a risk of inadequate fuel pressure resulting in poor engine starting and hesitation similar to what you described in your letter. This recall is applicable to certain MY 2008 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning November 5, 2007 through June 28, 2008. If you have not done so, we recommend you schedule an appointment with your authorized Hyundai dealership to confirm your vehicle is affected and have the recall remedy performed as soon as possible. A brochure explaining the investigation process is enclosed for your information, or you may visit our web site at www.odt.nhtsa.dot.gov.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Claude H. Harris, Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 366-3217.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel C. Smith".

Daniel C. Smith
Senior Associate Administrator
for Vehicle Safety

Enclosures