



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

June 16, 2011

The Honorable Patrick J. Toomey
United States Senator
1150 S. Cedar Crest Boulevard, Suite 101
Allentown, PA 18103

NVS-216 mec
Ref. No. 10403174

Dear Senator Toomey:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] wrote concerning her model year (MY) 2005 Ford Escape vehicle. Your letter was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation.

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. 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. However, we cannot act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

We appreciate the report you provided on behalf of [REDACTED]. Reports from motorists are a very important source of information for us. In [REDACTED] correspondence, she indicated that her MY 2005 Ford Escape started running poorly. Her mechanic discovered the power train control module was damaged. It took several attempts to rebuild the power train control module properly. [REDACTED] states the power train control module failed due to its location behind the engine where it is exposed to excessive heat. [REDACTED] is requesting reimbursement for all her repair expenses. In addition, she wants MY 2005 Ford Escape owners to be notified of this problem by a recall and reimbursed if they paid for repairs.

We are sorry to hear of the problems [REDACTED] reported and understand her concerns. We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists with regard to problems associated with power train control modules in MY 2005 Ford Escape vehicles. At this time there is insufficient evidence to warrant opening a safety investigation. The information you provided on behalf of [REDACTED] has been entered into our database and will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.



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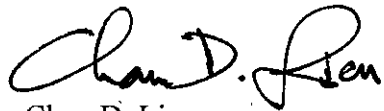
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We recommend [REDACTED] continue to work with Ford to address any unresolved concerns. A brochure explaining the investigation process is enclosed for her information that can also be found on our web site at www.odi.nhtsa.gov/recalls/recallssearch.cfm.

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,



Chan D. Lieu
Director, Governmental Affairs,
Policy and Strategic Planning

Enclosure

cc: Washington Office