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MAY 16 2011

To: NHTSA
From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Leaking Gas Line
Date: May 10, 2011

On April 29, 2011, my 1995 Buick Century, VIN No. 1G4AG55M2S6 [REDACTED] mileage 44,788, developed a leak in the gas line below the drivers feet, saturating the underside of the vehicle with gasoline and filling the interior of the car with fumes. I was on a short trip and the catalytic converter was fortunately not hot enough to ignite the gas and there was no significant damage and no injuries.

Being concerned the leakage might be caused by deterioration of the moulded nylon fuel line resulting from the use of blended fuel, I contacted General Motors about the leak. (GM Customer Assistance Service Request Number 71-943206835)

On May 2 a customer assistance representative called asking about the status of the car. I told her it was being towed to the Don Ledford GM dealer in Athens, Tennessee, for diagnosis of the problem.

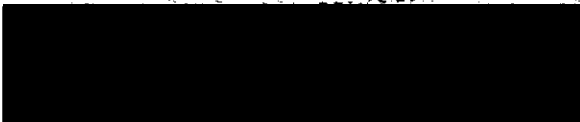
A person from the dealership called me a couple of days later and told me the fuel line needed to be replaced and I authorized her to proceed with the repairs. I went by the dealership May 6 and picked up the old fuel line and brought it home where I could make a closer examination. I found a small hole on the upper side of the return gas line at the point where the protective sheath ended and the line had come in contact with the sharp corner of the rear engine/transmission support mount. I did not see any deterioration of the line.

When I picked the car up at Don Ledford's the next day I noted the service technician had properly re-routed the replacement lines above the support mount and the sheath on the new lines extended about six inches past the sharp corner. I feel these modifications were correct and had they been incorporated in the original design would have eliminated the cause of the leak. Realizing the car was beyond warranty but feeling GM had some responsibility, I asked GM to assume one half the cost of the repairs, not including the towing bill which I paid.

General Motors informed me this morning they will bear none of the cost of the repairs. I was under the impression when a safety issue was involved the manufacturer bore some responsibility for corrective action past the period of the warranty. Am I wrong?

[REDACTED]
Decatur, TN.
Telephone [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

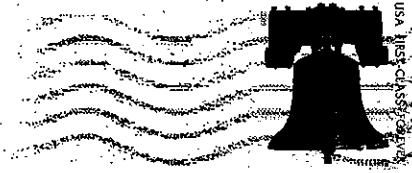
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