



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

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

January 23, 2013

[REDACTED]

Santa Monica, CA [REDACTED]

NVS-216 nam  
Ref. No. 10491142

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence concerning your model year (MY) 2013 Audi Q5. Your letter was received by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation. We apologize for any inconvenience our delay may have caused you.

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 trend may exist. However, we do not have authority to act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

You indicate that the placement of the gas and brake pedals are too close together in your MY 2013 Audi Q5 vehicle. This problem has caused you and your wife to inadvertently apply the gas pedal as you apply the brakes. You believe this is a safety hazard but the dealer declined to assist you.

We have reviewed our database in an effort to identify whether a safety defect trend exists with unintended acceleration caused by the proximity of the brake and accelerator pedals in MY 2013 Audi Q5 vehicles. At this time there is insufficient evidence to indicate a defect trend that warrants opening a safety defect investigation or to initiate a safety recall. The information provided has been entered into our database and will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention. For your information, the NHTSA investigation and recall process can be found on our web site at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

Should you encounter a safety-related problem with a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment in the future, we would appreciate it if you would complete an electronic Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire online at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov) 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 from our web site.

Sincerely yours,



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