

Subject: FW: OD 10496272 Malibu 2012
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 12:26 PM
To: DataQuality, DataQuality (NHTSA)
Subject: OD 10496272 Malibu 2012

I have lost faith that the power train system of this Malibu 2012 won't fail in traffic on interstates @ highway speeds of 55 mph and up.

The following are letters that I wrote both in May 2012 and in Jan of 2013: May 2012.

Regarding the Malibu 2012:

Steering & handling problems, From the day that I picked up the Malibu (Feb29, 2012), this car has had the same un fixed problems.

When I pick the car up from the dealership each time that I have had it in to be serviced, it would handle fairly well for 1 day and then

as each new day after that the handling of the car would get worse and return to erratic handling, wobbly, choppy & careening; difficult to control on uneven pavement roads & streets and very extreme difficulty at 55mph

& higher mph on Interstate highways. When I would take it back to dealership to have it serviced, it would be out of alignment again. Sometimes, the steering is stiff and difficult to turn (unsafe). At times the steering is very loose with too much play in the steering wheel (unsafe).

The sifting was erratic and lagged. It lagged from stop signs. It often failed to down shift to gain the power needed on highway upgrades so that

I couldn't keep up with flow of traffic while going at highways speeds (55mph to 70mph).

Transmission Failures: When passing semi-trucks and traffic on rougher uneven pavement on Interstates, the Malibu pulling right, jerking left with almost uncontrollable shifting and swaying. If there are curves, the Malibu swings dangerously wide out into the curves. Sometimes at these times the steering wheel freezes up and is difficult to turn and steer safely. There were times it almost stalled/stopped completely (Dangerous). One time on an interstate highway, I had just passed a semi at a speed of 70 mph and as I was returning to the right hand lane in front of the semi, the Malibu stuttered and started to quit, when I mashed the pedal to the floor there was a dangerous lag before enough power came to keep me ahead of the oncoming semi. When

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I told a service dept manager this incident, he told me those malibus will have sudden transmission system complete failures. A friend told me about just such a complete failure of their Chevy in heavy traffic going around Atlanta, Ga. If a person has this type of failure as I almost experienced in that incident, I believe a fatal accident would have occurred & wouldn't have been alive to report the Malibu transmission system failure.

At this time, when I'm driving at slower speeds on regular but uneven paved roads, the Malibu has a wobbly, uneven and erratic, often unpredictable handling. It feels like the right rear suspension is broken down. When the Malibu is parked on even pavement, the rear right wheel is toed in, often extremely noticeable. Occasionally the left wheel is obviously leaning out at an angle to the left at its top.

The handling of this car is difficult, erratic, unpredictable and unsafe. It swings wide on curved highways and it is difficult to drive at highway speeds and conditions. There is no assurance that the power needed to move the vehicle forward at appropriate speeds or timing to be safe in the traffic and driving conditions of highway driving.

I want to document this malibu is unsafe for occupants and dangerous to others, as the malibus are untrustworthy and its failures are unpredictable.