



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

February 15, 2017

The Honorable Dan Sullivan
United States Senator
851 East Westpoint Drive, Suite 309
Wasilla, AK 99654

NEF-109 rrr
Ref. No. 10928345

Dear Senator Sullivan:

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] concerning his model year (MY) 2006 Hyundai Sonata. Your letter was forward to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). I am pleased to respond.

NHTSA is the Federal agency responsible for improving safety on our Nation's highways. We are authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair motor 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. We do not have authority to act on isolated problems or resolve disputes between individual owners, dealers, or manufacturers.

[REDACTED] indicates that he purchased a MY 2006 Hyundai Sonata from a member of his church. He states that the original owners experienced a rear suspension failure that almost resulted in a crash, including two costly repairs. He asserts that the problem was caused by excessive rust and corrosion in the area of the subframe crossmember. [REDACTED] is aware that MY 2006 through MY 2010 Hyundai Sonata vehicles were recalled in August 2013 for this problem in certain salt belt States (NHTSA Safety Recall Campaign No. 13V-354). However, he is surprised that Alaska is not considered a salt belt State and ineligible for a free remedy under the recall. He contacted Hyundai and a local dealer, but they declined any assistance.

[REDACTED] requests that vehicles sold and registered in Alaska be added to Recall 13V-354.

NHTSA received a report from [REDACTED] about his vehicle problem through our www.safercar.gov website on November 28, 2016 (Ref. No. 10928345, enclosed). He is correct in that Recall 13V-354 is a regional recall, which is limited to certain MY 2006 through MY 2010 Hyundai Sonata vehicles originally sold or currently registered in salt belt States. The recall addresses a problem caused by road salt and water that enters portions of the rear crossmember. This results in corrosion of the crossmember steel and may lead to detachment of one of the rear control arms.

Page 2

The Honorable Dan Sullivan

Please note that when NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) reviewed this problem in 2013, there were no complaints from Alaska. ODI is re-examining all available data to whether the scope of Recall 13V-354 needs to be expanded to include Alaska. However, no determinations have been reached at this time. For [REDACTED] information, we enclosed a brochure explaining NHTSA's investigation and recall process, which is also website at www.safercar.gov. The information you provided has been entered into our database. It will be considered with future reports to identify any safety defect trends that may require our attention.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Jeffrey M. Giuseppe, Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement, at (202) 493-2631.

Sincerely yours,



Essie Wagner
Deputy Director, Governmental Affairs,
Policy and Strategic Planning

Enclosures

cc: Washington Office

Recall Detail

05-JAN-2017

Recall Num: 13 V 354 000	573 Date: 09-AUG-2013	573 Date Rcvd: 12-AUG-2013	Potentially Affected: 364,502	Potentially Defective: 364,502
Mfr Recall Num: 113	Subject: Crossmember Corrosion may cause Loose Control Arm		Remedy Type: Fix/Repair	RP Num:
Recall Type: Defect	Recall Effect: Crash Avoidance	NHTSA Inv Num: PE13-007	Influenced by: ODI	FMVSS Num:
Problem Exp: Other	Manufacturer: Hyundai Motor Company		Recall Status: CONDUCTING RECALL	

Problem Descr: Hyundai is recalling certain model year 2006-2010 Sonata vehicles manufactured March 1, 2005, through January 21, 2010; and model year 2006-2011 Azera vehicles manufactured September 27, 2005, through November 22, 2010 originally sold in, or currently registered in, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin and the District of Columbia. Road salt and water can enter portions of the rear crossmember, leading to corrosion of the crossmember steel. This may lead to detachment of one of the rear control arms.

Consequence: Control arm separation may suddenly change the rear wheel alignment, affecting the handling of the vehicle, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy Type: Hyundai will notify owners, and dealers will repair or replace the crossmember assembly. The recall began on October 8, 2013. Owners may contact Hyundai Customer Care Center at 1-800-633-5151. Hyundai's recall number is 113.

Notes: Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

MFR Knowl Dt:	Prod Change Dt:	Mfr Press Release Dt:	NHTSA Press Release Dt:
Stop Sales:	Regional: Y		
Supplier: Hwa Sin America Corp	Mfr Toll Free Num:		

Recall Detail

05-JAN-2017

Products	Beginning Mfg Date	Ending Mfg Date	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :AZERA Model Year :2007 Type :PASSENGER CAR	27-SEP-2005	22-NOV-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :SONATA Model Year :2009 Type :PASSENGER CAR	01-MAR-2005	21-JAN-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :AZERA Model Year :2011 Type :PASSENGER CAR	27-SEP-2020	22-NOV-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :SONATA Model Year :2010 Type :PASSENGER CAR	01-MAR-2005	21-JAN-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :AZERA Model Year :2010 Type :PASSENGER CAR	27-SEP-2005	22-NOV-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :AZERA Model Year :2009 Type :PASSENGER CAR	27-SEP-2005	22-NOV-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :SONATA Model Year :2008 Type :PASSENGER CAR	01-MAR-2005	21-JAN-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :SONATA Model Year :2007 Type :PASSENGER CAR	01-MAR-2005	21-JAN-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :SONATA Model Year :2006 Type :PASSENGER CAR	01-MAR-2005	21-JAN-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :AZERA Model Year :2008 Type :PASSENGER CAR	27-SEP-2005	22-NOV-2010	
Product Type :VEHICLE Product Category :LIGHT VEHICLES Manufacturer :Hyundai Motor America Make :HYUNDAI Model :AZERA Model Year :2006 Type :PASSENGER CAR	27-SEP-2005	22-NOV-2010	
Component Name			
SUSPENSION:REAR			
Influencing Investigation(s)			
Investigation Num	Subject	Investigator	Relationship
PE 13 007	Rear Control Arm Failure	KERRIN BRESSANT	Influencing
Related Recalls			
Yr	Type	Major Sub	Relationship



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

DOT Auto Safety Hotline
Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects
1-888-DASH-2-DOT
(1-888-327-4236)
INTERNET:www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received

28-NOV-2016

Repository Reference No.
10928345**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name

Address

City
BIG LAKEState
AK

Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Evening Telephone Number

The information you provide will be used to identify potential safety-related defects. We may share your information with the applicable vehicle manufacturer during an investigation or recall in accordance with the routine uses described in the agency's Privacy Act notice. See 49 FR 53971 (Sep. 3, 2004).

VEHICLE INFORMATION

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side

5NPET46C26H

Make
HYUNDAIModel
SONATAModel Year
2006

Date Purchased

Dealer's Name and Telephone Number

Engine:
No: Cylinders 4Fuel Type:
GasOriginal Owner

Dealer's City

State

Zip Code

Transmission Type

 Antlock Brakes

Powertrain

 Cruise Control

FRONT WHEEL DRIVE

Multiple Failure:

1

Incident Date(s)

31-JUL-2016

FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION

Vehicle Component Code: 020000 SUSPENSION

Failure Mileage
161000Failure Speed
45**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make

Tire Model (Name or Number)

Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)

 Original Equipment
 Prior Repair

Failure Location:

Tire Component Code

Tire Failure Type:

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE

Make:

Date Manufactured:

Model No./Name:

Seat Type:

Installation System:

Child Seat Component Code:

Failed Part:

APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION*(Please describe in detail the incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and injury(ies).)*

Crash

 Yes No

Fire

 Yes No

Number of Persons Injured

Number of Deaths

Reported to Police

N

Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).

Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e. parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

TL* THE CONTACT OWNS A 2006 HYUNDAI SONATA. WHILE DRIVING 45 MPH, THE REAR SUSPENSION FAILED AND THE ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL SENSOR ILLUMINATED. THE VEHICLE WAS TAKEN TO THE DEALER WHERE IT WAS DIAGNOSED THAT BOTH REAR SUSPENSION ARM ASSEMBLIES, ALIGNMENT, AND THE LOWER ARM PLATE FAILED AND NEEDED TO BE REPAIRED. THE VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED, BUT THE CROSS MEMBER LATER FAILED DUE TO CORROSION. THE VIN WAS NOT INCLUDED IN NHTSA CAMPAIGN NUMBER: 13V354000 (SUSPENSION). THE MANUFACTURER WAS MADE AWARE OF THE FAILURE. THE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS APPROXIMATELY 161,000.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice.

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond to this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.