

NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip



CL-109851 68-3113

Printed: 5/4/2017
INFORMATION Redacted PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF
INFORMATION ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(B)(6)

NHTSA #: ES17-001358	Rec'd Date: 5/4/2017	Referred By: NAD-200
XREF #:	Doc Type: CNG	Doc Date: 3/11/2017
Delivery: EML	Address To:	Due Date: 6/2/2017
S10 #:	DOT/I #:	RMP #:
Subject: LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN ROSS ON BEHALF OF CONSTITUENT [REDACTED] RE SAFETY CONCER WITH COMMERCIAL VEHICLES AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE VEHICLE AND VEHICLE COMPONENTS.		
Ack Date:	Ack By:	Signed For:
Sign Office: DEPUTY DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	Signature: ESSIE WAGNER	
Cleared Date:	Cleared By:	Cleared For:
File Loc:	XREF File:	Closed Date:
Added By: CBUTLER x60180	Modified By: Chris. Butler	
Most Recent Comment:		

Author:

THE HONORABLE DENNIS A ROSS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
170 FITZGERALD ROAD, SUITE 1
LAKELAND, FL 33813
Tel: 863-644-8215 Fax: E-mail:

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NEF-010	REPLY	5/4/2017	6/2/2017	
NGA-010	SIGN	5/4/2017		

PR
5819
LD



Representative

MAR 13 2017

Congressman Dennis A. Ross
Florida's 15th Congressional District

Dennis A. Ross

Privacy Authorization Form

Please fill out the form below and return it to the
District Office address below or by Telefacsimile to (863) 648-0749
Congressman Dennis A. Ross
170 Fitzgerald Road, Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33813

Please Print:

Name:

[Redacted Name]

(Mr. Mrs. Ms.)

Address:

[Redacted Address]

(Street)

PLANT CITY FL

(City, State, Zip)

Telephone

[Redacted Telephone]

(Home)

(Cell or Business)

Email Address

[Redacted Email]

Gill 3/17/17

SSN

[Redacted SSN]

Date of Birth

[Redacted Date of Birth]

Identification Number

[Redacted ID Number]

(Such as CSA#, Alien Registration No, etc., if applicable)

Hills
VOTER ID

*In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. §552a), I give Congressman
Dennis A. Ross and his Staff, written authorization to contact Agencies on my
behalf in order to obtain confidential information that would otherwise not
be permitted to a third party without written consent of the individual involved.*

Signature

[Redacted Signature]

Date

3-11-17

Check if you are interested in receiving periodic email updates from Rep. Ross

PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT YOU ARE SEEKING ASSISTANCE WITH ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

Questions or Assistance Needed? Please contact the District Office

at (863) 644-8215 or (813) 752-4790

Honorable Congressman Ross,

The reason for my contact is both of a safety concern with commercial vehicles and the responsibility of the vehicle and vehicle components. I purchased a 2009 Cottrell 7510 trailer equipped with a Hendrickson axle/suspension. These axle ends were discontinued from the market in 2009. We also are aware that many of these units caught fire and burned up both the trailers and their loads on many occasions. We are wondering if or why the NTSB or any other safety related agency has never gotten involved in investigating any of these fires or mechanical failures. The other question I would have is the responsibility of both the entities manufacturing this equipment, the supplier of the part and the end manufacturer of the trailer using said part. Is there any set time line of replacement parts availability for such parts. We did find such a Statute in FL but specifically lists agricultural equipment.

(686.40. Agricultural Equipment Manufacturers and Dealers Act.) Wondering how or why a law or statute would apply to one industry yet not another?

The other thing would be how does someone get the parts looked into for their safety performance standards when many people in our industry have had insurance claims due to the axle end hubs failing and catching fire?

My problem is that a manufacturer such as GM or Ford are mandated to recall and fix issues like this all the time on vehicles that cost the consumer 1/4th the costs of these trailers. Hendrickson did have a 'warranty replacement program' that they ended 12/31/16. They are now doing a partial rebate program in which they ask for a 1099 so they can have us pay the taxes on it? Not sure how that works or is right. As for the OEM Cottrell Trailers out of Gainesville GA, they have no concerns in doing anything on this failed non replaceable equipment. They (both companies) communicated about this issue years ago, or so I'm told by a Hendrickson rep. However Cottrell did nothing to communicate this to it's known customer base, leaving us hanging out there with the financial burden, mine cost me approximately \$18,000. I'm not sure about you but that is an almost put someone out of business expense, the normal repair costs for this would be around \$1200 and about one hour of time. That is for one truck, can't imagine a company with a couple hundred of these units. Or those who had catastrophic losses due fires caused by the units failing. As well as the insurance industry that covered those losses. I caught mine prior to any fire.

Is there anything from any agency that may hold these manufacturers responsible for the replacement of failed equipment and is there any chance of any agency looking into the recall of this equipment due to the safety concerns when it fails and causes the risk of life and loss of property..

Thanks for any help [REDACTED]

Ps. Yes, I do have in my possession the axles we removed for further examination by any agency that needs to.

Butler, Chris CTR (NHTSA)

From: Korkor, Julie (NHTSA)
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Butler, Chris CTR (NHTSA)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Chris,

Please control the incoming.

Thanks,

Julie

From: Hough, Lisa (FMCSA)
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 12:25 PM
To: Korkor, Julie (NHTSA) <julie.korkor@dot.gov>
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]

Hi Julie –

As noted below, our Policy office said that this is a NHTSA issue. I transferred the control through CCMS to see if that functionality works between modes, but I've also attached the incoming here.

Lisa

From: Bergling, Julie (FMCSA)
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 11:49 AM
To: 'Sebright, Taunia' <Taunia.Sebright@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Hough, Lisa (FMCSA) <Lisa.Hough@dot.gov>
Subject: RE: [REDACTED]

Good morning,

After our FMCSA program office reviewed the incoming correspondence, it was determined that the Office of Defects Investigation at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration should respond. Therefore, the correspondence was transferred to that agency. The POC for NHTA is Megan Caldwell at megan.caldwell@dot.gov. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

*Julie A. Bergling
Office of Governmental Affairs
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590*

Phone (202) 366-8924

From: Sebright, Tania [mailto:Tania.Sebright@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Bergling, Julie (FMCSA)
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]

Good afternoon, Julie!

Please provide status of inquiry for [REDACTED] Thanks and have a blessed day and weekend!

Tania Sebright
Constituent Services
Congressman Dennis A. Ross (FL15)

Sign up to receive regular updates from Rep. Ross



From: Sebright, Tania
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:18 AM
To: 'julie.bergling@dot.gov' <julie.bergling@dot.gov>
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]

Good morning, Julie!

Thank you for returning my call. Please find the attached privacy form originally sent to Brenda Brown.

Thank you for your assistance with this and have a blessed day!

Tania Sebright
Constituent Services
Congressman Dennis A. Ross (FL15)
170 Fitzgerald Road, Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33813
863-644-8215 - Polk
813-752-4790 - Hillsborough
863-648-0749 Fax
Tania.Sebright@mail.house.gov

Sign up to receive regular updates from Rep. Ross



From: Sebright, Tania
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 4:22 PM
To: 'Brenda.Brown@dot.gov'
Subject: [REDACTED]

Good afternoon, Ms. Brown!

Please review and address the attached privacy form for [REDACTED]. Please confirm receipt of inquiry and let me know if it needs to be addressed by someone else.

Thanks and have a blessed day!

Tania Sebright
Constituent Services
Congressman Dennis A. Ross (FL15)
170 Fitzgerald Road, Suite 1
Lakeland, FL 33813
863-644-8215 - Polk
813-752-4790 - Hillsborough
863-648-0749 Fax
Tania.Sebright@mail.house.gov

Sign up to receive regular updates from Rep. Ross

