

NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip



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Due Date: 12/26/2018

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Subject: LETTER FROM SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN RE: INQUIRY ON BEHALF OF [REDACTED] WHO EXPERIENCED ENGINE FAILURE OF 2012 KIA SOUL; ONE OF NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS ABOUT KIA AND HYUNDAI VEHICLES

Ack Date:

Sign Office: **DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Cleared Date:

File Loc:

Added By:

Ack By:

Signature: **BRIAN BARNARD**

Cleared By:

XREF File:

Modified By: Vanessa.Wood.ctr

Signed For:

Cleared For:

Closed Date:

Most Recent Comment:

Author:

THE HONORABLE TAMMY BALDWIN
UNITED STATES SENATE
30 WEST MIFFLIN STREET SUITE 700
MADISON, WI 53703
Tel: 608-264-5653 Fax: E-mail:

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NGA-010	SIGN	11/28/2018		
NEF-010	REPLY	11/28/2018		

RR
11.30.18
W

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 27, 2018

The Honorable Heidi King
Deputy Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Deputy Administrator King:

I write out of continued concern for non-collision fires in Kia and Hyundai vehicles.

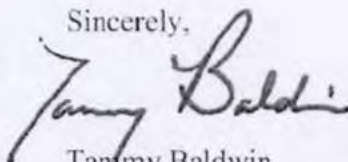
On September 18, 2018, I wrote to the Department of Transportation about engine failure [REDACTED] of Kenosha, Wisconsin experienced this summer while driving her 2012 Kia Soul. As described in the report she filed with NHTSA, [REDACTED] was driving on the highway when she heard a bang and saw smoke coming out of the front of her car. Thankfully, she was able to coast for more than a mile to the nearest exit.

This incident is just one of a growing number of consumer complaints involving engine failures and fire occurring simultaneously in Kia and Hyundai vehicles. The Center for Auto Safety has tracked more than 250 similar complaints in 2011-2014 Kia Sorento, Kia Optima, Hyundai Sonata, and Hyundai Santa Fe, and 2010-2015 Kia Soul vehicles. It is imperative that NHTSA identify and adequately address this troubling safety issue.

I appreciate the agency's response to my inquiry and ongoing work related to these alleged defects. NHTSA's information request for Kia Motors America did not initially include the car [REDACTED] drove, however, I was glad to learn that model years 2010-2015 Kia Soul vehicles have been added to the Defect Petition concerning non-crash fires. While Kia and Hyundai continue to fail to provide a remedy for the nearly 3 million vehicles that appear to be prone to non-collision fires, I ask that NHTSA provide guidance to consumers regarding the situation, including by expanding any current investigation, issuing new recalls and working with the Department of Justice as appropriate. Delay will continue to put the owners of these vehicles and their families at risk, along with everyone with whom they share the road.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Wood, Vanessa CTR (NHTSA)

From: Korkor, Julie (NHTSA)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Wood, Vanessa CTR (NHTSA)
Subject: FW: Baldwin letter- Kia and Hyundai
Attachments: Baldwin Letter to NHTSA- Kia and Hyundai Vehicles.pdf

Hello Vanessa,

Please control the attached incoming and notify me when done. If you have questions or need help please let me know.

Thanks,

Julie Korkor

Office of Executive Correspondence
U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
202-366-5470 (office)
julie.korkor@dot.gov (email)



From: Barnard, Brian (NHTSA)
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Peters, Sara (NHTSA) <sara.peters@dot.gov>; Caldwell, Megan (NHTSA) <megan.caldwell@dot.gov>; Korkor, Julie (NHTSA) <julie.korkor@dot.gov>
Cc: Ridella, Stephen (NHTSA) <Stephen.Ridella@dot.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Baldwin letter- Kia and Hyundai

Julie,

Please control.

Thanks,
Brian

Sent from my iPhone

From: Ladwig, Meghan (Baldwin) <meghan_ladwig@baldwin.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2018 9:22 AM
To: Barnard, Brian (NHTSA)
Subject: Baldwin letter- Kia and Hyundai

Hi Brian- Attached is a letter from Senator Baldwin to Deputy Administrator King. Appreciate any updates your able to provide and your work on the issue.

Thank you,
Meghan

MEGHAN LADWIG

Legislative Assistant

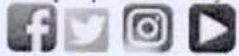
U.S. SENATOR TAMMY BALDWIN

709 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

(202) 224.5653

Keep up to date by following Tammy online:



www.baldwin.senate.gov