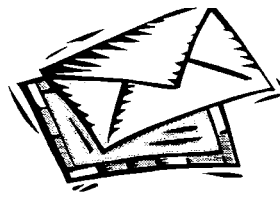


**NHTSA ccmMercury Routing Slip**



Dp04-002

Printed: 2/2/2004

**NHTSA #: ES04-000502**

**XREF #:**

**Delivery: REG**

**Rec'd Date: 1/20/2004**

**Doc Type: PET**

**Address To: NVS200**

**Referred By: NEC-110**

**Doc Date: 1/13/2004**

**Due Date: 5/18/2004**

**S10 #:**

**DOT/I #:**

**RMP #:**

**Subject: PETITION OWNER OF A 1997 CHEVROLET VENTURE VAN REPLACED POWER STEERING PUMP AND RACK PINION STEERING, WRITER QUESTION IF HIS VEHICLE IS INCLUDED WITH RECALLED CAMPAIGN ID NUMBER 02V286000**

**Ack Date:**

**Sign Office: ENFORCEMENT**

**Cleared Date:**

**File Loc:**

**Added By: AANDREWS x62543**

**Ack By:**

**Signature: WEINSTEIN**

**Cleared By:**

**XREF File:**

**Modified By: EHAYDEN**

**Signed For:**

**Cleared For:**

**Closed Date:**

**Most Recent Comment: 1/22/04 9AM PER NOTE FM NMOODY DATED 1/20/04 PER LARRY LONG/ODI PLEASE CONTROL THIS PETITION**

**Author:**

DENNIS FIKE

7136 ELK MAR DRIVE  
ELKRIDGE, MD 21075

Tel: Fax: E-mail:

Assigned To	Task	Asgn Date	Deadline	Returned Date
NVS-200	REPLY	1/22/2004	5/18/2004	

January 13, 2004

United States Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects & Investigations  
Attention: John White  
Room 5319  
400 7<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

RECEIVED  
NHTSA-215  
2004 JAN 19 P 1:14  
OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Dear Mr. White:

I am the owner of a 1997 Venture van that I purchased new in May 1997. I ordered the van in the Spring of 1997 which makes this vehicle in the window of production for the recall. I would like to file a petition related to the work that I had completed on my vehicle in December of last year (2003).

I charged on my credit card almost \$2,000 for the dealer to change the power steering pump and the rack and pinion steering. Please see copies of the bills. I am only questioning the rack and pinion steering and the power steering pump and the related costs. Please see the attached summary of costs. Since my vehicle was built during the time period of April 1, 1996 and August 31, 1997 this is the same problem as mentioned in the recall for the rack and pinion steering. This is part of the NHTSA Campaign ID Number: 02V286000.

The problems encountered were sporadic and included when turning at lower speeds a need to exerting additional pressure to turn the vehicle and making a noise when turns are made. It is more than coincidence that these problems exist. It could be possible that the power pump steering went bad or some kind of malfunction. However, when there have been two recalls on the items that were similar to my vehicle this is more than by chance. To conclude that these issues are not related to these recalls for this vehicle, one would have to support and come to a conclusion on two points. First, even if not produced in the same location as vehicles under the current recall one has to say that there is different technology used to produce these vehicles. This is not logical. Vehicles are produced on a mass production with similar technology to gain economies of scale. Second, there has to be a conclusion that not one time but twice there were similar issues as the recall for similar vehicles and my Venture should not be included in the recall. The evidence is clear and overwhelming for this vehicle to be included in the recall.

For the aforementioned reasons, I am requesting that you accept the petition request and add my vehicle to the just announced power steering recall and to the recall for the rack and pinion steering. I request expeditious review since the amount is now in dispute on my credit card.

SECRETARIAL  
JAN 20 10 08 AM '04

ES04-000502

Page 2 of 2

If you would like to discuss in more detail or need more information, please contact me during the day at 301.282.3067 or in the evening at 410.379.5524.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Fike  
7136 Elk Mar Drive  
Elkridge, MD 21075

Enclosures:

Copies of Bills

Summary of Costs to be Reimbursed