

J.P.

Ford Motor Company

James P. Vondale, Director
Automotive Safety Office
Environmental & Safety Engineering

June 24, 2005

Ms. Kathleen C. DeMeter, Director
Office of Defects Investigation Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. DeMeter:

Subject: EA05-003

The Ford Motor Company (Ford) response to a June 9, 2005 e-mail from Mr. Scott Yon of the agency requesting additional information concerning Ford Super Duty and Excursion vehicles equipped with 6.0 liter diesel engines is attached. As discussed in a June 22, 2005 telephone call with Mr. Yon, Ford is gathering and reviewing owner and field reports and warranty claims for responsiveness to Request 3 of the e-mail. We anticipate providing this information to the agency no later than July 29, 2005.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

J. P. Vondale
James P. Vondale

Attachment

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Item 1:

Ford will check slide 7 and see why the number of VOQs does not add up to the number of vehicles reported in the chart and advise what the discrepancy is and how it will be resolved.

Response:

A typographical error in the summary text identified the number of VOQ VINs as 68 when the actual number is 81, which is consistent with the number identified within the chart. Additionally, in a June 2, 2005 telephone discussion, Mr. Scott Yon inquired about the distribution of the vehicles identified in VOQs within the vehicle populations identified in Ford's presentation. The corrected VOQ Analysis slide and a slide identifying the vehicle distribution are being provided electronically as Appendix I with a request for confidentiality under separate cover to the agency's Office of the Chief Counsel pursuant to 49 CFR, Part 512.

Item 2:

Ford will review the content of slides 38, 47, 54 and 72 and ensure that text font sizes are legible on both electronic (screen) and printed version.

Response:

The identified slides have been formatted to provide legible information. The re-formatted slides are being provided electronically as Appendix II with a request for confidentiality under separate cover to the agency's Office of the Chief Counsel pursuant to 49 CFR, Part 512.

Item 3:

Ford will provide new Appendix A and Appendix C data to the same specification as in Ford's PE04070 IR letter response but including data up to the same date the 5/18/2005 presentation was based on (4/30/2005). Please advise the likely delivery schedule and whether your submission will contain the PE data or only the new/additional data.

Response:

As discussed in a June 22, 2005, telephone call with Mr. Yon, Ford is gathering and reviewing owner and field reports and warranty claims. We expect to provide the requested information to the agency no later than July 29, 2005. The submission will provide data that is incremental to our earlier response.

Item 4:

We didn't discuss this in the phone call, but I had previously asked (via email of 5/2/2005) if the subject vehicle owner's manual gives any instruction regarding what to do if an engine stall occurs, either while stopped or while moving. Can you please investigate and advise further?

Response:

As discussed in a June 16, 2005 telephone call with Mr. Yon, the owner guides for the subject vehicles do not include any operating instructions specific to an engine stall event.

Item 5:

I think Kurt said there was some other/additional data in connection with the mileage accumulation chart Ford provided that he could supply to help us better understand the analysis. Can you check with him on this please?

Response:

The requested information is being provided electronically as Appendices III-A and III-B with a request for confidentiality under separate cover to the agency's Office of the Chief Counsel pursuant to 49 CFR, Part 512.

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