



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

# ODI RESUME

Investigation: DP 06-005  
Prompted By: Public Citizen Letter  
Date Opened: 12/04/2006 Date Closed: 12/28/2007  
Principal Investigator: Ajit Alkondon  
Subject: Engine Stalling FFV

Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company  
Products: 2003-2005 Ford Taurus and Mercury Sable  
Population: 228,000

Problem Description: FFV engine stall

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	2	1	3
Crashes/Fires:	0	0	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0
# Injuries:	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0
# Fatalities:	0	0	0
Other*:	0	0	0

\*Description of Other:

Action: Defect Petition is denied.

Engineer: Ajit Alkondon **A.A.**  
Div. Chief: Gregory E. Magno  
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

Date: 01/08/2008  
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**Summary** On October 11, 2006, Public Citizen petitioned ODI to investigate reports of engine stalls caused by E85 fuel in certain model year (MY) 2003-2005 Ford Taurus Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFV).

ODI's review of the petition and other available data found a low stall rate attributable to E-85 fueling and that the main concerns, prolonged engine start and rough idle during cold engine startup at winter temperatures, were resolved by an engine software update.

To ensure that all subject vehicles receive this update, Ford initiated a notification campaign to offer free engine computer recalibration.

Based on this information, this defect petition is denied. This denial should not be construed as a finding that no safety defect exists. ODI reserves the right to reconsider this issue if future data warrant.

Additional details can be found in the federal register notice posted in the DP06-005 public file.