



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

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 06-055
Date Opened: 11/21/2006
Principal Investigator: Andrea Noel
Subject: Sudden Loss Of Power Steering Assist

Manufacturer: Toyota Motor Corporation
Products: 2006 My Toyota Highlander (Hybrid Only)
Population: 30,000 (Estimated)

Problem Description: The Electronic Power Steering (EPS) Electronic Control Unit (ECU) malfunctions, resulting in sudden loss of power steering assist.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

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

*Description Of Other:

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

Engineer: Andrea Noel *A.N.*
Div. Chief: Jeffrey L. Quandt
Office Dir.: Kathleen C. DeMeter

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Summary: The Office Of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received two consumer complaints alleging loss of power steering assist due to failure of the Electronic Power Steering (EPS) Electronic Control Unit (ECU) in MY 2006 Toyota Highlander Hybrid vehicles.

One complainant indicated that while making an emergency stop after traveling at a speed of 25mph, "The steering wheel locked up when the brakes were applied, preventing avoidance of collision with another vehicle."

A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the safety-related consequences and to determine the scope of the affected population.

Andrea A. Noel
11/22/06