



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

# ODI RESUME

**Investigation:** PE 11-005  
**Date Opened:** 02/15/2011  
**Investigator:** Kareem Habib **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt  
**Approver:** Frank Borris  
**Subject:** Hybrid inverter failure - vehicle stall

## MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Manufacturer:** TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION  
**Products:** MY 2006 Toyota Highlander HEV  
**Population:** 43,941 (Estimated)  
**Problem Description:** Consumers have reported incidents of inverter failure while driving, with no warning, resulting in vehicle stall with no restart.

## FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
<b>Complaints:</b>	32	TBD	TBD
<b>Crashes/Fires:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Injury Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Fatality Incidents:</b>	0	TBD	TBD
<b>Other*:</b>	0	TBD	TBD

\*Description of Other:

## ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Action:** A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened.

**Summary:**

The Office of Defects Investigation has received 32 complaints alleging incidents of engine stall while driving in model year 2006 Toyota Highlander hybrid electric vehicles. Approximately two-thirds (21) of the incidents occurred at speeds of 40 miles per hour or more. Twenty-six reported that the vehicle could not be restarted or that it was towed to the dealership. The complaints show an apparent increasing trend, with all but one received within the past year. None of the complaints alleged that the incident resulted in a crash or injury. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and potential safety consequences associated with the alleged defect.