



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: PE 11-014
Date Opened: 04/25/2011
Investigator: Kareem Habib **Reviewer:** Derek Rinehardt
Approver: Frank Borris
Subject: Fuel level gauge system failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: GENERAL MOTORS CORP.
Products: 2005-07 Chevrolet Trailblazer/GMC Envoy/Buick Rainier/Saab97
Population: 865,000 (Estimated)
Problem Description: Consumers have reported incidents of inaccurate and random fuel level reading while driving, resulting in the vehicle running out of fuel and causing vehicle stall with no restart.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	58	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	1	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Other*:	610	TBD	TBD

*Description of Other: Inaccurate fuel level reading did not result in a stall condition

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened

Summary:

The Office of Defects Investigation has received 668 complaints alleging inaccurate fuel gauge reading while driving in model year 2005-07 Chevrolet Trailblazer, GMC Envoy, Buick Rainier, and Saab 9-7x vehicles. Of the 668 complaints, 58 incidents were alleged to result in a vehicle stall. Of the 58 stalling incidents, 43 complaints reported stalling because the fuel level reading indicated more fuel availability than what is actually in the fuel tank. One complaint alleged a vehicle crash after the vehicle stalled while exiting the interstate, became disabled, and was struck from behind. Summarily, the complaints show an apparent increasing trend, with most complaints received within the past year. A Preliminary Evaluation has been opened to assess the scope, frequency and potential safety consequences associated with the alleged defect.