



August 19, 2011

Scott Yon, Chief  
Vehicle Integrity Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Ave., S. E., Room W46-409  
Washington, D.C. 20590

N110175

NVS-212cag  
PE11-021

Dear Mr. Yon:

This letter is General Motors (GM) partial response to your Preliminary Evaluation (PE), dated July 7, 2011, to investigate allegations of unintentional vehicle movement due to a transmission shift indicator misalignment/mis-indication and or a transmission shift cable failure in certain model year (MY) 2007 Saturn Aura vehicles manufactured by General Motors Corporation.

This partial response contains the responsive information to request numbers 1, 7, 9, and 10. As agreed to in an e-mail from you dated August 15, 2011, the remainder of the responsive information will be provided by September 2, 2011.

Your requests and our corresponding replies are as follows:

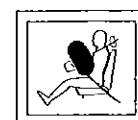
1. **State by model and model year, the number of subject vehicles GM has manufactured for sale or lease in the United States. Separately, for each subject vehicle manufactured to date by GM, state the following:**
  - a. **Vehicle's identification number (VIN);**
  - b. **Date of manufacture;**
  - c. **Date warranty coverage commenced; and,**
  - d. **The State in the United States where the vehicle was originally sold or leased (or delivered for sale or lease).**

**Provide the table in Microsoft Access 2007, or a compatible format, entitled "PRODUCTION DATA."**

General Motors is providing the number of subject vehicles which were sold or leased in the United States in Table 1-1 below.

Make	Model	2007 Model Year
Saturn	Aura	64,850

Table 1-1 SUBJECT VEHICLES



The production information requested in 1a – 1d is provided on the ATT\_1\_GM disk; folder labeled "Q\_01." Refer to the Microsoft Access 2000 file labeled: "Q\_01\_PRODUCTION DATA."

- 7. Produce copies of all service, warranty, and other documents that relate to, or may relate to, the alleged defect in the subject vehicles, that GM has issued to any dealers, regional or zone offices, field offices, fleet purchasers, or other entities. This includes, but is not limited to, bulletins, advisories, informational documents, training documents, or other documents or communications, with the exception of standard shop manuals. Also include the latest draft copy of any communication that GM is planning to issue within the next 120 days.**

There are no Technical Service Bulletins (TSB) that may relate to the subject condition and which have been issued to dealers, regional or zone offices, field offices, fleet purchasers or other entities. This information was determined by GM Service Operations on August 10, 2011. GM is not planning to issue any Technical Service Bulletins within the next 120 days.

- 9. Describe all modifications or changes made by, or on behalf of, GM in the design, material composition, manufacture, quality control, supply, or installation of the subject component, from the start of production to date, which relate to, or may relate to, the alleged defect in the subject vehicles. For each such modification or change, provide the following information:**
  - a. The date or approximate date on which the modification or change was incorporated into vehicle production;**
  - b. A detailed description of the modification or change;**
  - c. The reason(s) for the modification or change;**
  - d. The part number(s) (service and engineering) of the original component;**
  - e. The part number(s) (service and engineering) of the modified component;**
  - f. Whether the original unmodified component was withdrawn from production and/or sale, and if so, when;**
  - g. When the modified component was made available as a service component; and**
  - h. Whether the modified component can be interchanged with earlier production components.**
  - i. Also, provide the above information for any modification or change that GM is aware of which may be incorporated into vehicle production within the next 120 days.**

GM is providing a summary of the product engineering information requested in Q9

(a-h) on ATT\_1\_GM disk in the folder labeled "Q\_09." Refer to the folder labeled "Q\_09\_Design Modifications."

The subject vehicle is no longer being produced, so, in answer to part (i) above, there are no modifications or changes of the subject component that may be incorporated into vehicle production.

**10. State the number of each of the following that GM has sold that may be used in the subject vehicles by component name, part number (both service and engineering/production), model and model year of the vehicle in which it is used and month/year of sale:**

- a. **Subject component(s); and,**
- b. **Any kits that have been released, or developed, by GM for use in service repairs to the subject component/assembly.**

**For each component part number, provide the supplier's name, address, and appropriate point of contact (name, title, and telephone number). Also identify by make, model and model year, any other vehicles of which GM is aware that contain the identical component, whether installed in production or in service, and state the applicable dates of production or service usage.**

An electronic summary table of the requested service part information for the subject component is provided on the ATT\_1\_GM disk; folder labeled "Q\_10," refer to the file labeled "Q\_10\_Part Sales."

These sales numbers represent sales to dealers in the US and Canada. It is not possible from this data to determine the number of these parts that have been installed in the subject vehicles for the alleged defect. Moreover, these sales numbers also represent parts sales which were used on 2009 vehicles which were the subject of recall 09V-073 (transmission shift cable adjustment clip may not be fully engaged).

\* \* \*

GM claims that certain information, in documents that are part of lawsuit and claims files maintained by the GM Legal Staff, is attorney work product and/or privileged. That information includes notes, memos, reports, photographs, and evaluations by attorneys (and by consultants, claims analysts, investigators, and engineers working at the request of attorneys). GM is producing responsive documents from claims files that are neither attorney work product nor privileged, and withholding those that are attorney work product and/or privileged.

This response is based on searches of General Motors (GM) locations where

documents determined to be responsive to your request would ordinarily be found. As a result, the scope of this search did not include, nor could it reasonably include, "including all of its divisions, subsidiaries (whether or not incorporated) and affiliated enterprises and all of their headquarters, regional, zone and other offices and their employees, and all agents, contractors, consultants, attorneys and law firms and other persons engaged directly or indirectly (e.g., employee of a consultant) by or under the control of GM (including all business units and persons previously referred to), who are or, in or after 2002, were involved in any way with any of the following related to the alleged defect in the subject vehicles:

- a. Design, engineering, analysis, modification or production (e.g. quality control);
- b. Testing, assessment, evaluation, service, or quality;
- c. Consideration, or recognition of potential or actual defects, reporting, record-keeping and information management, (e.g., complaints, field reports, warranty information, part sales), analysis, claims, or lawsuits; or
- d. Communication to, from or intended for zone representatives, fleets, dealers, or other field locations, including but not limited to people who have the capacity to obtain information from dealers."

This response was compiled and prepared by this office upon review of the documents produced by various GM locations, and does not include documents generated or received at those GM locations subsequent to their searches.

Please contact me if you require further information about this response or the nature or scope of our searches.

Sincerely,



M. Carmen Benavides  
Director, Product Investigations  
and Safety Regulations

Attachments