



U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

## **MEMORANDUM: TEST REQUEST**

MAY 18 2011

TO: Roger Saul, Director

Vehicle Research and Test Center

FROM: Frank Borris, Director

Office of Defects Investigation

**SUBJECT:** PE11-018, Throttle body malfunction may result in unexpected vehicle movement in MY 2005 through 2007 Ford Freestyle vehicles.

**BACKGROUND**: This office has received 245 complaints alleging incidents of unexpected vehicle movement in MY 2005 through 2007 Ford Freestyle vehicles. Additionally, ODI has identified 18 minor crashes that may be related to the subject condition, none of which resulted in an airbag deployment.

**OBJECTIVE:** The objective of the testing is to determine if the alleged failure of the throttle body represents a risk to motor vehicle safety

TEST VEHICLES, EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURE: Testing should be performed on MY 2005 through 2007 Ford Freestyle vehicles.

<u>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u>: The ODI investigator is Stephen McHenry, <u>stephen.mchenry@dot.gov</u>, 202-366-4883. The ODI division chief is Jeffrey Quandt, <u>jeff.quandt@dot.gov</u>, 202-366-5207. The investigator and division chief should be updated at least bi-weekly of test program status/progress.

**<u>FINAL REPORT</u>**: It is requested that the test work and draft report be completed to a schedule to be determined in discussion with ODI.

