



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Test request (PE14-019)

Date: August 27, 2014

From: Frank Borris, Director
Office of Defects Investigation

To: Roger Saul, Director
Vehicle Research and Test Center

BACKGROUND: ODI has opened PE14-019 to investigate allegations of rear axle lock-up or drive shaft detachment from the rear differential caused by loose pinion nuts in MY 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 vehicles. To date, ODI has received 35 complaints alleging that there was little or no warning prior to the lock-up and/or separation of the driveshaft.

REQUESTED WORK: ODI is requesting that the VRTC obtain and examine field return parts harvested by ODI and supplied by Chrysler. Details of testing protocol and objectives shall be discussed in detail with the assigned investigator, Division Chief and VRTC assigned engineer(s).

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

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

