



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



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

Mr. Jason Levine
Executive Director
The Center for Auto Safety
1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 330
Washington, DC 20009

AUG 23 2018

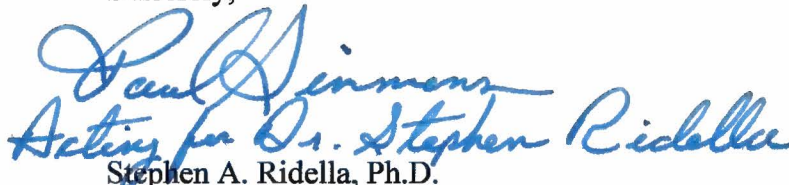
NEF-103mj1
DP18-003

Dear Mr. Levine:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your petition dated June 11, 2018, requesting that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) initiate a defect investigation into non-crash related fires on model year 2011-2014 Kia Optima and Sorento, and Hyundai Sonata and Santa Fe vehicles.

ODI's preliminary review of the Vehicle Owner Questionnaire (VOQ) data indicates that the majority of the reported fires appears to be related to the engine failures covered by two current Recall Queries: RQ17-003 on Kia vehicles and RQ17-004 on Hyundai vehicles. ODI has opened a Defect Petition (DP18-003) to review the petition, VOQs, Early Warning Data, and other information on the subject vehicles, followed by a decision to grant or deny the petition.

Sincerely,


Paul Simmons
Acting for Dr. Stephen Ridella

Stephen A. Ridella, Ph.D.

Director

Office of Defects Investigation