



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

ODI RESUME

Investigation: RQ 18-001
Date Opened: 04/18/2018
Investigator: Matthew Martens **Reviewer:** Jeff Quandt
Approver: Stephen Ridella
Subject: Engine Idler Pulley Bolt Failure

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: BMW of North America, LLC
Products: 2009-2012 BMW X5 xDrive35d
Population: 29,800 (Estimated)
Problem Description: The engine idler pulley bolt may loosen and break, resulting in a sudden loss of power steering.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	Total
Complaints:	19	TBD	TBD
Crashes/Fires:	0	TBD	TBD
Injury Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Injuries:	0	TBD	TBD
Fatality Incidents:	0	TBD	TBD
Number of Fatalities:	0	TBD	TBD

ACTION / SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Recall Query has been opened.

Summary:

On November 26, 2012, Bayerische Motoren Werke (BMW) AG submitted a Safety Defect Report to NHTSA describing an engine idler pulley bolt defect condition that could result in loss of power steering while driving in approximately 29,800 model year (MY) 2009-2012 X5 xDrive35d diesel engine vehicles manufactured prior to the implementation of a new idler pulley bolt and a revised installation procedure (Recall No. 12V-550). BMW's defect report indicated that a combination of factors could cause the bolt to loosen over time, resulting in additional bending stress at the bolt head. As a result, the bolt could break. Bolt fracture would result in a failure of the belt drive and loss of power steering and alternator function. The remedy includes the installation of the new bolt with the revised installation procedure.

ODI has received 19 complaints alleging incidents of power steering failure due to the loss of the engine belt in vehicles previously remedied under Recall 12V-550. On average, the failures have occurred approximately 3.6 years and 49,900 miles after the vehicles received the recall remedy. The failures appear to show an increasing trend, with 11 occurring since January 1, 2017. A recall query has been opened to assess the scope and remedy for Recall 12V-550.

The ODI complaints cited above involving power steering failures can be viewed at www.nhtsa.gov under the following ODI identification numbers: 11066063, 11063010, 11054909, 11054759, 11042259, 11041551, 11032006, 11013643, 11010667, 11002447, 10956710, 10948014 (10984353), 10937632, 10903433, 10819617, 10817406, 10661614, 10559422, 10552773