

## Howell, Rosa (NHTSA)

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**From:** Rahimpour, Ryan (NHTSA)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 4, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:** Howell, Rosa (NHTSA)  
**Subject:** FW: Mercedes Benz PE 2021-019 IR response extension request

Rosa,

Please add a copy of this email to PE21-019 in Artemis Internal Repository.



Regards,

Ryan Rahimpour  
Safety Defects Engineer  
Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicles Defects Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
**Department of Transportation**  
**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590  
Office: 202-366-8756  
Room W48-218

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**From:** Neff, Joshua (NHTSA) <joshua.neff@dot.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 1, 2021 3:14 PM  
**To:** Hemmersbaugh, Paul <paul.hemmersbaugh@dlapiper.com>; Rahimpour, Ryan (NHTSA) <ryan.rahimpour@dot.gov>  
**Cc:** Harrison, Jonathan (NHTSA) <jonathan.harrison@dot.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Mercedes Benz PE 2021-019 IR response extension request

Paul-

I've had a chance to review your extension request against the Information Request Letter. We are granting you the 2-week extension that you need to submit the response in full. We look forward to your partial response next week.



**Josh Neff**  
Chief, Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicle Defect Division  
**U.S. Department of Transportation**  
**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
**Office of Defects Investigation**  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590  
Room: W48-302  
Office: 202-366-0698

Report Vehicle Safety Defects at [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov)

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**From:** Hemmersbaugh, Paul <[paul.hemmersbaugh@dlapiper.com](mailto:paul.hemmersbaugh@dlapiper.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 01, 2021 11:31 AM  
**To:** Neff, Joshua (NHTSA) <[joshua.neff@dot.gov](mailto:joshua.neff@dot.gov)>; Rahimpour, Ryan (NHTSA) <[ryan.rahimpour@dot.gov](mailto:ryan.rahimpour@dot.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harrison, Jonathan (NHTSA) <[jonathan.harrison@dot.gov](mailto:jonathan.harrison@dot.gov)>  
**Subject:** Mercedes Benz PE 2021-019 IR response extension request

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Josh and Ryan,

This is a follow-up to the phone message and extension request I left for Josh on Wednesday. Mercedes Benz must request an extension of the time to respond to the Sprinter Vans AutoP Information Request, presently due on October 8. MB believes it will be able to provide responses to the majority of the Requests by October 8, but will not be able to complete its full response and production to NHTSA by that deadline.

The Mercedes Benz organizations have been working diligently to prepare their responses as expeditiously as possible. However, the IR issued just as the annual German holiday period commenced (I understand it runs from roughly the beginning of August until mid-September) and many key personnel necessary to develop Mercedes response were entirely unavailable for several weeks. At the same time, this is the first IR response for some of the relevant MVUSA personnel. We also recently determined there are some European data privacy constraints that must be navigated (essentially any personal information – including just names – cannot be transferred to the US from Germany).

Mercedes proposes to produce next Friday responses to PE 2021-019 IR Requests 1-7, 9-10, and 14-16. The company requests a two-week (14 days) extension, to October 22, to file its remaining responses, including responses to Requests 8, 11-12, and 17.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this extension request, please contact me at your earliest convenience. If you prefer to discuss this on the phone, you may call my cell phone at 202 262 2882. Please also let me know as soon as you can whether NHTSA agrees to this limited extension.

Thank you for your consideration and response,

Paul Hemmersbaugh

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