



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

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



Investigation: RQ23005
Prompted By: VOQs and Early Warning Reporting
Date Opened: 09/10/2023
Investigator: Joseph Teitelman **Reviewer:** Peter Kivett
Approver: Tanya Topka
Subject: Vehicle Rollaway

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Kia America, Inc.
Products: 2015-2019 Kia Soul EV
Population: 6,267 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Unintended vehicle movement can occur when the vehicle is shifted to Park and the parking brake is not engaged.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
All Incidents:	3	0	0	0	2	CONF
Crashes/Fires:	1	0	0	0	1	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Injuries:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Fatalities:	0	0	0	0	0	0

Description of Other:

ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Recall Query has been opened.

Summary:

In July 2020, Kia issued safety recall 20V-389 addressing a defect in the parking mechanism on model year (MY) 2015-2016 Kia Soul EV vehicles. In the recalled vehicles, if the driver moves the gear shift lever into Park before coming to a complete stop, the parking mechanism can be damaged. When the parking mechanism is damaged, unintended vehicle movement can occur when the vehicle is shifted to Park and the parking brake is not engaged. The recall remedy consists of a software update for the Electronic Parking Brake (EPB) that automatically engages EPB if the vehicle is turned off with the gear shift lever located in Park. The updated EPB logic was incorporated into production at the beginning of MY 2017.

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received three Vehicle Owner Questionnaires (VOQs) alleging unintended vehicle movement while in Park for MY 2017-2018 Kia Soul EV (two of the complaints represent the same VIN and are from the same consumer). One of the VOQs includes a reported rollaway collision which occurred after the operator had parked and exited the vehicle. From Early Warning Reporting data submitted by Kia, ODI identified a failure similar to those described by consumers which was diagnosed to a damaged parking mechanism. Through preliminary communications with Kia, ODI has confirmed that MY 2017-2019 Kia Soul EV vehicles are equipped with the same parking mechanism as the prior model years which were subject to recall. ODI is opening this

Recall Query (RQ) on MY 2015-2019 Kia Soul EV vehicles to evaluate the frequency, scope, and causes of the alleged rollaway incidents, and to assess the effectiveness of the remedy of recall 20V-389.

To review the reports cited in the attached Opening Resume ODI Report Identification Number document, go to [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov).