



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



March 26, 2025

Mr. Eric Hein
Director, Institute for Safer Trucking
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, 7000
Washington, DC 20006

DP24-004

Dear Mr. Hein,

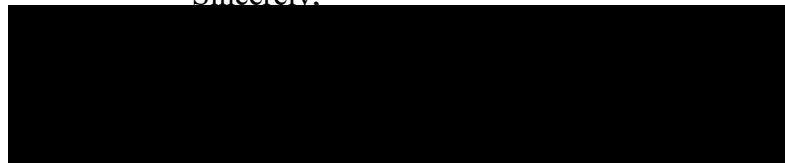
This is in response to your letter dated July 3, 2024 that petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to initiate a defect investigation into van-type or box semitrailers that lack side underride guards.

We have reviewed your petition, as well as information from other sources. A decision is enclosed.

NHTSA is authorized to issue an order requiring notification and remedy of a defect if the agency's investigation shows a defect in the design, construction, or performance of a motor vehicle that presents an unreasonable risk to safety. 49 U.S.C. §§ 30102(a)(9), 30118. Having reviewed your petition and information or data otherwise available to the agency NHTSA has decided not to open a defect investigation, and your petition is denied.

We thank you for bringing this important matter to our attention, and for your continued interest in motor vehicle safety.

Sincerely,



Eileen Sullivan
Associate Administrator
for Enforcement

Enclosure