



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

JUN - 3 2005

MS. GAY KENT
GENERAL MOTORS CORP.
MAIL CODE 480-111-E15 30200 MOUND ROAD
WARREN MI 48090-9055

NVS-215
05V-245

Subject: REAR TAIL LAMP ASSEMBLY

Dear MS. KENT:

This letter is to acknowledge your recent defect or noncompliance information report. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this is the information that will be made available to the public.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

SATURN/L-SERIES SEDAN/2000-2002
SATURN/L-SERIES WAGON/2000-2004

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-245

Recall Date: May 31, 2005

Components:

EXTERIOR LIGHTING: BRAKE LIGHTS

Potential Number of Units Affected: 291652

Summary:

ON CERTAIN SEDANS AND WAGONS, THE PLASTIC HOUSING IN THE REAR TAIL LAMP ASSEMBLY CAN BECOME DISTORTED IF THE BRAKE LAMPS REMAIN ON FOR AN EXTENDED TIME.

Consequence:

THIS CAN CAUSE (1) AN INTERMITTENTLY INOPERATIVE BRAKE/TAIL LAMP BULB OR (2) A SHORT CIRCUIT THAT OPENS A FUSE CAUSING INOPERATIVE BRAKE LAMPS (INCLUDING THE CENTER HIGH-MOUNTED STOP LAMP) OR TAIL LAMPS. A FOLLOWING DRIVER MAY NOT KNOW WHEN THE BRAKES HAVE BEEN APPLIED, AND A REAR-END CRASH COULD OCCUR WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSTALL A REINFORCING SOCKET ADAPTER (AND CORRESPONDING NEW SOCKET) TO THE BACK OF THE EXISTING LAMP ASSEMBLY. IF NECESSARY, THE REINFORCING SOCKET ADAPTER WILL BE INSTALLED INTO A NEW LAMP ASSEMBLY AND THEN INSTALLED IN THE VEHICLE. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT SATURN AT 1-800-972-8876.

Notes:

GM RECALL NO. 05052. CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236.

This recall was the subject of a Preliminary Evaluation, PE05-010, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

Effective October 21, 2004, a manufacturer must provide an estimated dealer notification date when submitting a defect/noncompliance report (Part 573.6).

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. As stated in your report, owner notification is expected to begin during September 2005. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due by October 30, 2005.

Your contacts for this recall will be Pat Wallace or Delia Lopez, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5232 or 202-366-9525 or by email at patricia.wallace@nhtsa.dot.gov or delia.lopez@NHTSA.dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,



George H. Person
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement