

U.S. Department of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20590

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

JUL 1 5 2005

FRANK SLAVETER NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC. 18501 SOUTH FIGRUEROA STREET GARDENA CA 90248-4500 NVS-215 05V-319

Subject: WIRE BREAKING INSIDE ALTERNATOR

Dear MR. SLAVETER:

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:

NISSAN/MURANO/2003-2005

NHTSA Campaign Number: 05V-319 Recall Date: July 12, 2005

Components:

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: ALTERNATOR/GENERATOR/REGULATOR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 125,466

Summary:

ON CERTAIN SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT A WIRE BREAKING INSIDE THE ALTERNATOR COULD STOP THE BATTERY FROM CHARGING.

Consequence:

IF THIS HAPPENS, THE CHARGER WARNING AND BRAKE WARNING LAMPS WILL IMMEDIATELY COME ON AND THE BATTERY WILL BEGIN TO DISCHARGE. AFTER A SHORT TIME, THE ENGINE WILL GO INTO A "FALL SAFE" CONDITION WHICH WILL LIMIT VEHICLE SPEED. THE ENGINE WILL STOP RUNNING WHICH COULD RESULT IN A CRASH.

Remedy:

DEALERS WILL INSPECT AND REPLACE THE ALTERNATOR WITH A NEW VERSION WHICH HAS BEEN MODIFIED TO PREVENT MOVEMENT OF THE COIL. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN ON AUGUST 3, 2005. OWNERS SHOULD CONTACT NISSAN AT 1-800-647-7261.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO http://www.safercar.gov.

This recall was the subject of an Engineering Analysis, EA05-006, conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

We have reviewed your proposed owner letter and it does not meet the requirements of Part 577.

- The word "determined" in the first paragraph second sentence should be changed to "decided."
- A sentence should be added concerning leased vehicles, i.e., Federal regulations require that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.
- Regulations require manufacturers conducting safety recalls to include the NHTSA Vehicle Safety Hotline phone number in their notification letters to owners [49 CFR 577.5(g)(1)(vii)]. That phone number has changed, and in a technical amendment to the regulation published in the June 21, 2005 Federal Register [70 FR 35556] manufacturers' owner letters must contain the new phone number and the NHTSA's web address. Accordingly, beginning July 21, 2005, please revise your owner letters to include the following statement: "You may also submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to http://www.safercar.gov."

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, the recall is expected to begin on August 3, 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.

George H. Person

Chief, Recall Management Division

Office of Defects Investigation

Enforcement

Sincerely.