



GENERAL MOTORS NORTH AMERICA
Structure & Safety Integration

RECEIVED
JUN 1 2005

2005 JUN -2 A 10: 21

May 31, 2005

OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

Mr. Ronald Medford
Senior Associate Administrator, Vehicle Safety
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 5321
Washington, D.C. 20590

05V-245
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Medford:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by General Motors of a safety defect involving certain 2000-02 Saturn LS (sedan) and 2000-04 Saturn LW (wagon) model vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Saturn Division of General Motors Corporation.

573.6(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2000-02 Saturn LS (sedan) and 2000-04 Saturn LW (wagon) model vehicles. The plastic housing in the rear tail lamp assembly can become distorted if the brake lamps remain on for an extended time. 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.

573.6(c)(6): From March 2004 through September 2004, Product Investigations, Brand Quality Car Group and Vehicle Engineering reviewed and verified warranty and field data for the 2000 to 2004 Saturn L-series the data.

On October 22, 2004, a Field Performance Evaluation (FPE) Investigation was initiated. A request was made to obtain parts from the Failed Parts Return Program. Warranty and returned parts analysis was conducted by the Field Performance Assessment Engineer (FPAE) and Saturn Warranty. The Current Product Engineering group worked with the supplier to investigate potential causes.

On February 16, 2005, GM received an Opening Resume from NHTSA and an Information Request (IR) on March 4, 2005. A GM Red-X study was conducted to confirm the heat deformation performance effects.

GM responded to the IR (PE05-010) to NHTSA on April 15, 2005.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee (FPERC), formerly known as Senior Management Committee, and on May 9, 2005, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee (EFADC), formerly known as Field Action Decision Committee, decided to conduct a safety recall.

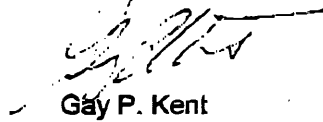
573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to install a reinforcing socket adapter (and corresponding new socket) to the back of the existing lamp assembly. If necessary, the reinforcing socket adapter will be installed into a new lamp assembly and then installed in the vehicle.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM will provide reimbursement to owners for repairs completed on or before ten days after the owner mailing is completed, according to the plan submitted on January 14, 2005.

Letter to Mr. Ronald Medford
05052
May 31, 2005
Page 2

573.6(c)(9): GM will provide draft copies of the bulletin and owner letter when available along with mail dates. It is anticipated that GM will have parts in September 2005.

Sincerely,



Gay P. Kent
Director
Product Investigations

05052
Attachments

**VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR
PLUS INCLUSIVE DATES OF MANUFACTURE**

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES</u> <u>(FROM) (TO)</u>		<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Saturn	L-Series	2000	97,228	05/1999	07/2000	Sedan/Wagon	All
Saturn	L-Series	2001	88,738	06/2000	06/2001	Sedan/Wagon	"
Saturn	L-Series	2002	96,213	05/2001	06/2002	Sedan/Wagon	"
Saturn	L-Series	2003	7,248	02/2002	06/2003	Wagon	"
Saturn	L-Series	2004	2,225	03/2003	04/2004	Wagon	"
GM Total:			291,652				