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OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

June 16, 2005

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-287
(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 noncompliance involving certain 2005 model year Buick Terraza, Chevrolet Uplander, Pontiac Montana SV6, and Saturn Relay vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Buick, Chevrolet, and Pontiac Divisions of General Motors Corporation and Saturn Corporation.

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

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that certain 2005 model year Buick Terraza, Chevrolet Uplander, Pontiac Montana SV6, and Saturn Relay vehicles fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (MVSS) 135. To meet the standard, the vehicle must not move for five minutes when stopped on a steep hill with the parking brake applied and the vehicle in NEUTRAL (N). A part that was not to GM's specifications can cause the parking brake to fail this test.

A loud popping noise as the parking brake is applied or a sudden decrease in the effort required to apply the parking brake can be indications of this condition. When the parking brake is released, the driver may notice unintended braking when accelerating, decelerating, or coasting, and a groan, humming, and/or vibration coming from the rear of the vehicle.

To help prevent unintended vehicle movement, drivers should always put the transmission in PARK (P) when parking.

573.6(c)(7): GM's determination is based on two FMVSS 135 Park Brake 20% GVW grade hill hold tests performed at the supplier:

- Test performed with slipped shaft caliper on left hand side, after 150 miles driving to simulate customer usage and determine effects in field.
 - a. Date of Test – March 15, 2005
 - b. Results – Failed. Vehicle could not generate enough torque to hold 20% grade due to lever slippage/travel loss in left hand caliper.
- Test performed with slipped shaft caliper on left hand side, with no mileage accumulated after slippage.
 - a. Date of Test – March 24, 2005
 - b. Results – Failed. Vehicle could not generate enough torque to hold 20% grade due to lever slippage/travel loss in left hand caliper.

On March 31, 2005, the results of the first test and FMVSS 135 noncompliance concern were communicated to GM in a meeting with Engineering.

On April 7, 2005, the results of the second test were communicated to GM.

An investigation summary was completed and the issue was presented to the FPE Director on May 19, 2005.



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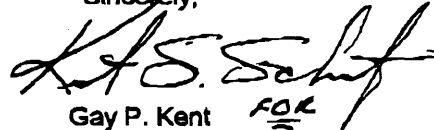
The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee (FPERC), formerly known as Senior Management Committee, and on June 9, 2005, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee (EFADC), formerly known as Field Action Decision Committee, decided to conduct a noncompliance recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to inspect for parking brake lever slippage at each rear brake caliper. Replace the caliper if lever slippage is identified.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not believe notification about reimbursement is required for this recall. The involved vehicles are current model vehicles and are covered by the new car warranty.

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 and tools in September 2005.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G.P. Kent". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Gay P. Kent

Director

Product Investigations

05059
Attachments

573.6(c)(2),(3),(4)

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 (FROM) (TO)</u>		<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Buick	U-Van	2005	1,997	02/2005	03/2005	Terraza	3%
Chevrolet	U-Van	2005	7,642	02/2005	03/2005	Uplander	"
Pontiac	U-Van	2005	2,768	02/2005	03/2005	Montana SV6	"
Saturn	U-Van	2005	<u>2,193</u>	02/2005	04/2005	Relay	"
		GM Total:	14,600				

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