

NISSAN

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.

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January 9, 2006

Mr. Daniel Smith
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

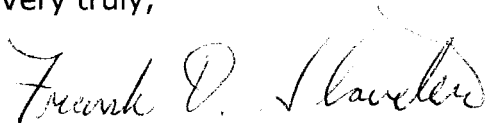
06V-003
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Medford

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices. Nissan plans to notify dealers by January 23, 2006 and begin notifying owners on March 21, 2006.

We will include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy.

Very truly,



Frank D. Slaveter
Senior Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

2006 JAN 12 A 11:30
DEFECT INVESTIGATION

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DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

2003 – 2006 model year Nissan Murano vehicles produced from April 24, 2002 (start of production) to November 24, 2005. Vehicles manufactured after this date are not affected. No other Nissan models use the same fuel tank design and location in the vehicle.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 205,000

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

The fuel tank in these vehicles is located under the floorpan and forward of the rear suspension. The lowest point of the forward edge of the fuel tank is at a level above the front suspension members and engine cradle such that if there is an object in the roadway, the engine cradle and suspension structure will deflect it and prevent it from contacting the fuel tank in most driving situations. However, due to the level of the forward edge of the tank unique to this model, in the event that a vehicle front tire runs over a small, sharp object in the road, catches it and propels it towards the rear of the vehicle, there is a possibility it may strike the front edge of the fuel tank and puncture it in this model. Nissan has not had any reports of accidents, fires or injuries as a result of this incident.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

September 2005 – Nissan received an information request from NHTSA concerning reports that the Agency had received of fuel tank punctures on Nissan Murano vehicles.

September – December 2005 – Nissan conducted an investigation to determine the cause and scope of the fuel tank punctures.

December 28, 2005 – Nissan determined that a safety related defect exists and that a recall campaign should be conducted.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Protectors will be installed in front of the tank. Nissan plans to notify dealers by January 23, 2006 and begin notifying owners on March 21, 2006.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.