

NISSAN

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June 28, 2006

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

06 V-242
(3 pages)

Dear Mr. Smith

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 July 12, 2006 and begin notifying owners on August 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.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Motor Co., Ltd.

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

2003 model year Nissan Altima vehicles equipped with a 2.5L engine and produced from August 1, 2002 (start of production) to September 2, 2003 (end of production).

2003 model year Nissan Sentra vehicles equipped with a 2.5L engine and produced from August 1, 2002 (start of production) to March 25, 2003 (end of production).

No other Nissan engine models or model years are affected by the defect described below.

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 186,279 Nissan Altima vehicles and 14,587 Nissan Sentra vehicles for a total of 200,866.

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

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

The operation of the crank angle sensor in the 2003 Nissan Altima and Sentra equipped with a 2.5 liter engine is significantly affected by variations in temperature that occur due to the unique location of the sensor in the engine. Under certain driving conditions, these variations in temperature can be large enough to cause a brief interruption in the signal output from the sensor. If the interruption in the signal from the sensor is so brief that the Electronic Control Module (ECM) logic does not have time to diagnose the condition, the engine may stop running without warning while the vehicle is driven at a low speed.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

March 31, 2006 – Nissan received a Recall Query from NHTSA regarding engine stalls on 2003 Nissan Altima vehicles which might be related to Recall 03V-455 which Nissan initiated in December 2003.

April – June 2005 – Nissan conducted an investigation to determine the cause and scope of stalling incidents on the 2003 Altima and whether they may relate to the defect which was the basis for Recall 03V-455.

June 21, 2006 – Nissan determined that a safety related defect different than the one that was the basis for Recall 03V-455 exists and that a recall campaign should be conducted.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified. The ECM will be reprogrammed to prevent stalling incidents due to signal interruptions from the crank angle sensor.

8. Copy of Notices:

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