



August 2, 2006

06V-289
(3 pages)

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 5321, MC: NVS-200
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

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 2004-06 model year Chevrolet Silverado, Suburban and Avalanche; GMC Sierra and Yukon XL; 2006 Chevrolet Kodiak and GMC TopKick model vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet and GMC Brands 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 2004-06 model year Chevrolet Silverado, Suburban and Avalanche; GMC Sierra and Yukon XL; 2006 Chevrolet Kodiak and GMC TopKick model vehicles equipped with an 8.1L V8 (RPO L18 – VIN G) engine. Some of these vehicles have a condition in which the engine fuel rail pulse damper retainer clip may fracture, resulting in inadequate retention of the damper. If the damper comes loose, a fuel leak may result.

573.6(c)(6): On April 28, 2006, Workhorse Custom Chassis (WCC) notified General Motors that they had received reports of fuel damper retainer clips breaking in the field.

Through the month of May, WCC and GM Powertrain investigated, including finding and inspecting failed clips. There were 31 reports of failed clips on 2004 Workhorse Custom Chassis engines and none involving engines in Chevrolet or GMC vehicles. Analysis showed some clips were not properly heat treated and were more susceptible to fracture.

On June 5, 2006, the Allison Region Executive Field Action Decision Committee authorized WCC to conduct a field action on 2004 model year engines. WCC decided to conduct a safety recall and notified NHTSA (NHTSA number 06V-225).

GM continued its investigation to understand the difference in failure occurrence between WCC and GM vehicles by getting back additional clips from both populations for analysis. Clips broke on two experimental vehicles located at the GM Milford Proving Ground when the technician tried to remove them. GM has also learned of one field case of a clip breaking on a customer's vehicle in late June.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee (FPERC) and on July 28, 2006, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee (EFADC) decided to conduct a safety recall.

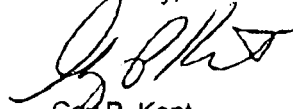
573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to replace the engine fuel rail pulse damper retainer clip.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not plan to provide notice about reimbursement to owners because most vehicles are covered under the new vehicle warranty and there has been only one case of a retainer clip breaking on a vehicle in the involved population identified in this letter.

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573.6(c)(9): General Motors will send copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter when available along with mail dates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. P. Kent', written in a cursive style.

Gay P. Kent
Director
Product Investigations

06080
Attachment

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

MAKE	MODEL SERIES	MODEL YEAR	NUMBER INVOLVED	INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES		DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.	EST. NO. W/CONDITION
				(FROM)	(TO)		
Chevrolet	GMT800	2004	10,156	03/2003	08/2004	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2005	6,216	03/2004	07/2005	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2006	2,115	05/2005	04/2006	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2004	1,564	04/2003	08/2004	Avalanche	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2005	855	05/2004	06/2005	Avalanche	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2006	272	04/2005	01/2006	Avalanche	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2004	3,213	04/2003	06/2004	Suburban	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2005	2,648	05/2004	06/2005	Suburban	"
Chevrolet	GMT800	2006	399	07/2005	01/2006	Suburban	"
Chevrolet	GMT560	2006	988	06/2005	05/2006	Kodiak	"
GMC	GMT800	2004	3,761	03/2003	08/2004	Sierra	"
GMC	GMT800	2005	2,638	03/2004	07/2005	Sierra	"
GMC	GMT800	2006	571	05/2005	04/2006	Sierra	"
GMC	GMT800	2004	967	03/2003	06/2004	Yukon XL	"
GMC	GMT800	2005	658	06/2004	06/2005	Yukon XL	"
GMC	GMT800	2006	152	07/2005	01/2006	Yukon XL	"
GMC	GMT800	2006	1,266	04/2005	06/2006	TopKick	"
	GM Total:		38,439				

* All affected vehicles will be repaired.