



06V-389
(5 pages)

October 5, 2006

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington DC 20590

via FAX and Regular Mail

RE: Notice of Safety Defect in Accordance with 49 CFR Part 573

Dear Mr. Smith:

Big Dog Motorcycles, L.L.C. (Big Dog Motorcycles) has decided that a safety defect exists in certain model year 2005 and 2006 motorcycles produced by Big Dog Motorcycles. The following information is submitted in accordance with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's defect reporting regulations, 49 CFR Part 573.

Vehicle Identification and Recall Population

The following motorcycles and populations are involved in this voluntary recall campaign:

Model Year 2005

Mastiffs – 334 units

Rolling Thunder and Big Dog
Motorcycles Framed Choppers – 997 units

Bulldogs – 364 units

Model Year 2006

Mastiffs – 671 units

Big Dog Motorcycles
Framed Choppers – 128 units

A total of 2,494 motorcycles are involved in this voluntary recall campaign. They were produced between September 10, 2004 and April 12, 2006.

Description of Defect

Big Dog Motorcycles has determined that the long right side pivot bolt on the subject motorcycles has insufficient tensile strength and may bend or even break through normal operation of the motorcycle. If this occurs, the motorcycles alignment and handling will be affected and the rear fender could abrade against the rear tire while the motorcycle is being driven. This condition could occur without any prior warning and could result in a crash. Big Dog Motorcycles has no reports of any accidents or injuries related to this condition.

Big Dog Motorcycles cannot estimate the percentage of the motorcycles that actually contain the defect. However, Big Dog Motorcycles will be recalling 100 percent of the potentially affected population.

Chronology of Events

In the Spring of 2006, Big Dog Motorcycles received information with respect to bent or broken pivot bolts on its subject motorcycles. Big Dog Motorcycles commenced an investigation of these complaints and the potential causes to determine if a potential safety defect existed. This investigation concluded that the long right side pivot bolt on the subject motorcycles has insufficient tensile strength and on October 5, 2006 the company decided to conduct a voluntary safety recall campaign.

Remedy Program

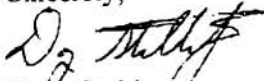
Big Dog Motorcycles' dealers and service centers will replace the long right side pivot bolt and straighten the rear frame side panel if needed. If the long right side pivot bolt is broken, they will also replace the short left side pivot bolt and pivot shaft. This remedy will be effectuated on all units in the subject population. Attached is a copy of Big Dog Motorcycles' customer letter, as required by 49 CFR Part 577. Big Dog Motorcycles is prepared to send out the notification letters to owners on or about November 1, 2006. A copy of Big Dog Motorcycles' dealer letter and instructions related to this recall campaign are attached to this letter.

Reimbursement Program

Pursuant to 49 CFR Part 577.11(e), Big Dog Motorcycles requests that it be exempted from providing notification of a reimbursement plan. All of the affected units are covered by the manufacturer's 2-year limited warranty. Accordingly, no person would be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to Part 573.13.

Please advise the undersigned or in the alternative, Stephen Zier (at 316-219-6502; or fax: 316-219-6602) of the NHTSA campaign number assigned to this recall.

Sincerely,



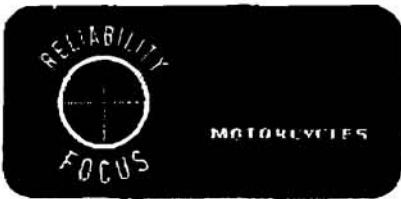
Doug Stuhlsatz
General Counsel

Big Dog Motorcycles, L.L.C.

Direct Phone: 316-219-7006

Direct Fax: 316-219-7106

cc: Mr. George H. Pearson
NHTSA Recall Management Division
By facsimile: (202) 366-7882



NHTSA SAFETY RECALL

Safety Recall Notice # _____ Pivot Bolt Replacement Remedy

Dear Big Dog Motorcycles' Dealer/Service Center:

This notice is sent in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Big Dog Motorcycles, L.L.C. (Big Dog Motorcycles) has determined that there is a safety defect in the long right side pivot bolt on certain of its 2005 and 2006 model motorcycles. The long pivot bolt on these motorcycles needs greater tensile strength to keep from bending and possibly breaking during normal operation. If this pivot bolt bends or breaks it can affect the motorcycle's alignment and handling performance and may cause the rear fender to abrade against the rear tire while the motorcycle is being driven. At this time Big Dog Motorcycles has no reports of any accidents or injuries related to this condition.

The specific motorcycles that are being recalled are all 2005 N-Chopper models with either Rolling Thunder or Big Dog Motorcycles frames, all 2005 Bulldogs, all 2005 Mastiffs, 2006 N-Choppers with Big Dog Motorcycles frames manufactured prior to April 12, 2006, and 2006 Mastiffs manufactured prior to April 12, 2006. T-Choppers are *not* involved in this recall campaign. A recall notice will be sent to the registered owners of these motorcycles on or about November 1, 2006. Some of the motorcycles affected by this recall are shown in your inventory.

What You Should Do

We ask that you immediately suspend all pending and future sales of motorcycles affected by this recall campaign until the remedy has been performed. It is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new vehicle covered by this notice under a sale or lease until the defect is remedied. Federal regulations require any lessor receiving this letter to forward it to the lessee within 10 days.

Owners of the above-mentioned motorcycles will contact you to schedule a time for you to perform the remedy. At the time of repair, enter a warranty claim for this recall through AWS using Labor Op R06V-XXX. Follow this repair procedure for any recalled motorcycles in your current inventory. Big Dog Motorcycles will pay 1.1 hours of labor to make this repair at your posted hourly shop rate. Order the long pivot bolt replacement parts (P/N BDM130-00816) through AWS. If the long right side pivot bolt is broken you also need to replace the short left side pivot bolt and pivot shaft. Order the short pivot bolts and pivot shafts (P/N BDM130-00817 and BDM130-00828) separately through AWS. A single repair tool kit containing a rod for measuring straightness of the side frame panels and a rod for straightening the side frame panel will be sent at no charge under separate cover. This repair tool kit will not be available until the last week of October. Additional repair tool kits will also be available for purchase. Contact the Customer Service Department for any questions you may have on submitting claims for recall repairs.

We will inform the owners of these motorcycles of this repair on or about November 1, 2006. You can advise them of the exact turnaround time based on scheduling and any other factors that may exist.

We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter. Big Dog Motorcycles apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause you, but assures you that we have taken this step as one that is important to our customers' personal safety.

Should you have any questions, please contact Customer Service at 316-267-9121.

Sincerely,
BIG DOG MOTORCYCLES, L.L.C.



November 1, 2006

«FirstName» «LastName» «Proj_»
«Address»
«City», «ST» «Zip»

**Re: Safety Recall Notice; Campaign No. _____;
Big Dog Motorcycles Pivot Bolt Remedy**

Dear Motorcycle Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Big Dog Motorcycles, L.L.C. (Big Dog Motorcycles) has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in the long left side pivot bolt on certain of its 2005 and 2006 model motorcycles. The long right side pivot bolt may bend or break through normal operation of the motorcycle. This could potentially cause the rear fender to abrade against the rear tire while the motorcycle is being driven. This condition could occur without any prior warning and could result in a crash.

According to our records, you are the registered owner of a <<year>> Big Dog Motorcycles' «Model» with VIN «VIN», one of the motorcycles subject to this recall. Federal regulations require any lessor receiving this letter to forward it to the lessee within 10 days.

What You Should Do

Contact your Big Dog Motorcycles' dealer or service center to arrange to have your motorcycle updated. There will be no charge to you. If you have received this notice *and are not the owner* of the above-mentioned motorcycle, please contact the Big Dog Motorcycles' Customer Service Department at 316-267-9121 immediately.

What We Will Do

Your dealer or service center will install a new long pivot shaft bolt and make other corrections if needed. Your dealer will be able to advise you of the exact turnaround time based on scheduling and any other factors that may exist.

If you are not able to obtain the necessary service on your motorcycle, please contact the Big Dog Motorcycles' Customer Service Department and we will assist you. The address and telephone number is:

1520 E. Douglas Avenue
Wichita, KS 67214
Telephone: 316.267.9121
Fax: 316.219.9129
E-mail: customer.service@bigdogmotorcycles.com

If your dealer, service center or Big Dog Motorcycles fails or is unable to remedy your motorcycle without charge within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

We appreciate your cooperation and prompt attention to this important matter. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you, and we assure you that we have taken this step as one that is important to your personal safety.

We appreciate your business and want to insure your continued satisfaction with Big Dog Motorcycles' products.

Sincerely,

BIG DOG MOTORCYCLES, LLC