# OWNER'S LETTER (initial campaign notification)

#### Dear Nissan Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Nissan has decided that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in some 2006 model year Nissan Altimas (Sentras) equipped with four cylinder 2.5L engines. Our records indicate that you own or lease the Nissan vehicle identified by the VIN on the cover of this notice.

## Reason for Recall

On some 2006 model year Nissan Altima (Sentra) vehicles equipped with four cylinder 2.5L engines, there is a possibility of an engine compartment fire. This is caused by extremely low engine oil level resulting from higher than normal engine oil consumption due to a manufacturing problem in some engines.

#### What Nissan Will Do

Nissan will take the following actions at no cost to you for parts or labor:

- In order to prevent a fire from occurring, Nissan will reprogram the Electronic Control Module (ECM or engine computer) (Item 1 below).
- Nissan will also take additional steps to help assure your continued satisfaction, by
  evaluating your vehicle to determine if it exhibits abnormal oil consumption. In a
  small percentage of vehicles, engine replacement will be needed (Item 2 below).
- 1. In order to prevent a fire from occurring, your Nissan dealer will reprogram the Electronic Control Module (ECM or engine computer). This reprogramming will ensure that the engine will go into a "limp home" mode in the event that your engine oil drops to an unacceptable level. If this occurs, the "Service Engine Soon" light will illuminate and the vehicle engine RPM will not exceed 1800. Reduced drivability will result, but you will be able to drive the vehicle to your Nissan dealer for service.
  - The ECM reprogramming should take about one hour to complete, but your Nissan dealer may require your vehicle for a longer time based upon their work schedule.
- In addition to the ECM reprogramming, Nissan will also inspect your vehicle to determine if it has been consuming engine oil at a higher than normal rate. In many cases, your Nissan dealer will be able to make this diagnosis during the same visit as the ECM reprogramming.
  - If oil consumption is determined to be normal, your oil and filter will be changed and your vehicle returned to you.
  - If oil consumption is determined to be abnormal, the engine in your vehicle will be replaced.
  - In some cases, analysis of the engine oil will be necessary to determine if the engine needs to be replaced.

If engine oil analysis is necessary, your Nissan dealer will take an oil sample at the time of ECM reprogramming and send it to a separate laboratory. Your oil, filter, and oil pan will be replaced and your vehicle will then be returned to you. After the oil sample analysis is completed, Nissan will inform you of the results in approximately 2-3 weeks by mail. In the meantime, it is safe to continue to drive your vehicle, but as always regularly check your engine oil level as specified in your Owner's Manual.

In a few cases, the results of the oil sample will indicate engine replacement is necessary. In those cases, we will ask you to return your vehicle to the dealership to have the engine replaced. If it is necessary to replace your engine, a rental vehicle will be provided while you leave your vehicle at the dealer for the repair.

## Warranty Extension

Nissan has extended the engine portion of the Powertrain Coverage of your 2006 Nissan New Vehicle Limited Warranty to 84 months or 100,000 miles, whichever comes first. All other warranty terms, limitations, and conditions remain unchanged. This warranty extension applies to your vehicle whether your engine is replaced or not.

## What You Should Do

Contact your Nissan dealer at your earliest convenience in order to arrange an appointment to have your vehicle repaired.

As with any vehicle, be sure to regularly check engine oil level as specified in your Owner's Manual. If the vehicle shows any signs of more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  quart of oil use in 3,500 miles, you should contact your dealer as soon as possible to have your vehicle inspected.

Please bring this notice with you to your service appointment. Instructions have been sent to your Nissan dealer. If the dealer fails, or is unable to make the necessary repairs free of charge, you may contact the National Consumer Affairs Department, Nissan North America, Inc., P.O. Box 685003, Franklin, TN 37068–5003. The special toll free number is 1-800-240-9924. You may also contact the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 7th 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.

Nissan will reimburse you for any oil expenses required to top off your engine's oil level prior to the completion of this recall. You can visit your nearest Nissan dealer for reimbursement. If you prefer, you may instead send your original oil receipts and proof of vehicle ownership (copy of your vehicle registration) to the following address:

Nissan North America Consumer Affairs P.O. Box 685003 Franklin, TN 37067-5003

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact a Nissan representative at 1-800-240-9924.

Thank you for your cooperation. We are indeed sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you.