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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION RECALL MGMT DIV.



James P. Vondale, Director Automotive Safety Office Environmental & Safety Engineering

March 26, 2007

07V-139 (3 pages)

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

Dear Mr. Smith:

Subject: Ford Recall No. 07849 - Certain 2008 Model Year F-250/350/450/550 Trucks with 6.4L

**Diesel Engines** 

### Summary

• <u>Ford Action</u> - Ford is conducting a voluntary safety recall involving certain 2008 model year F-250/350/450/550 6.4L diesel engine trucks to reprogram the powertrain control module to prevent exhaust over temperature.

<u>Number of Vehicles Involved</u> -Approximately 33,169 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.

Affect on Vehicle Operation - Excessive temperatures in the diesel particulate filter in the exhaust system may result from excess hydrocarbons in the exhaust and cause a lack of power or rough operation, unusual noises from the engine or exhaust, white smoke from the exhaust, and potentially **a** visible **flame** out the tailpipe. Ford is aware of one report of flame from the tailpipe on a U.S. vehicle - the report alleges a **grass** fire. There are no reports alleging accidents or injuries.

• <u>Service Procedure</u> - Owners will be instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford dealer to have the powertrain control module reprogrammed.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of **49** CFR Part 573 - Defect and Noncompliance Report.

Sincerely,

James P. Vondale Attachment

T. A. Levi

Fairlane Plaza South



## 49 CFR Part 573 - DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT Ford Recall No. 07S49 - Certain 2008 Model Year F-250/350/450/550 Trucks with 6.4L Diesel Engine

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Ford Motor Company submits the following information concerning a safety recall action that it is voluntarily initiating.

### 573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

Vehicles potentially affected are certain 2008 model year F-250/350/450/550 Trucks with 6.4L diesel engines built from June 13, 2006 through March 9, 2007 at the Kentucky Truck Plant.

Because these vehicles are not produced in VIN order, information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-800-392-3673) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

#### 573.6 (c) (3) - Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Approximately 33,169 vehicles in the United States and Federalized Territories.

#### 573.6 (c) (4) - Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition

Unknown.

### 573.6 (c) (5) - Description of the Defect

Excessive temperatures in the diesel particulate filter in the exhaust system may result from excess hydrocarbons in the exhaust and cause a lack of power or rough operation, unusual noises from the engine or exhaust, white smoke from the exhaust, and potentially a visible flame out the tailpipe. Ford is aware of one report of flame from the tailpipe on a U.S. vehicle - the report alleges a grass fire. There are no reports alleging accidents or injuries.

## 573.6 (c) (6) - Chronology of Events

On March 6, 2007 engineering reported to the Ford Critical Concern Review Group (CCRG) that they were aware of reports alleging visible flame from the exhaust tailpipe. An investigation was conducted by engineering. One report alleging flame from the tailpipe on a U.S. vehicle was found. On March 9, 2007 a stop ship was issued for the Kentucky Truck Plant. Engineering continued their investigation to determine cause.

On March 19, 2007, a Technical Review Committee (TRC) was held to review field and engineering investigation data.

On March 19, 2007. a special Field Review Committee approved a field action.

## 573.6 (c) (8) - Service Program

Owners will be instructed to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer to have the powertrain control module reprogrammed. There will be no charge to owners for this service.

Mailing of owner notification letters will begin March 30, 2007 and be completed on March 30, 2007. A copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners from Ford will be forwarded to the agency when available.

In accordance with Part 573.13 (d)(1), Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs incurred by owners for repair of this problem because Ford's original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern for customers.

# 573.6(c) (9) - Press statement and Dealer/Owner Letter

Ford made a statement to the media concerning the subject matter of this action on March 21. 2007.

## 573.6 (c) (1) - Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 07S49 to this action