



August 6, 2007

07V-344  
(2 pages)

Mr. Daniel C. Smith  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306  
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 noncompliance involving certain 2007 model year Chevrolet Equinox and Pontiac Torrent vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet and Pontiac 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 certain 2007 Chevrolet Equinox and Pontiac Torrent vehicles fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 208, Occupant Crash Protection. In these vehicles, the right front passenger seat is built with a passenger sensing system. When tested with a representative unrestrained small adult, the system is required to turn the right front passenger's frontal airbag on. An error in the seat sensor calibration can cause it to fail this test. In addition, this condition can prevent the airbag from turning off when the seat is occupied by a small child.

The owner manual explains how to use the passenger sensing system. The airbag status indicator displays the status of the airbag. Whenever the front passenger seat is occupied, the driver should always check the airbag indicator to see if the airbag is on or off. If it is not correct for the situation, the passenger should be moved to a different seat. A child restraint installed properly in the back seat is the safest place for children.

573.6(c)(7): GM's determination is based on:

On June 27, 2007, a static room temperature test was conducted using three vehicle seats that were replaced under warranty and determined to have this condition, four children and three 5th percentile adult volunteers.

During the test sequence, misclassifications were detected on 11 of 18 5th percentile adult volunteer sit-ins in the "Normally Seated" position. No misclassifications were detected on any of the 6 year old sit-ins.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee (FPERC) and on July 31, 2007, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee (EFADC) decided to conduct a noncompliance recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to reprogram the seat's electronic control unit (ECU).

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not plan to provide notice about reimbursement to owners because all involved vehicles are covered under the new vehicle warranty.

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

Sincerely,

Gay P. Kent  
Director

Product Investigations

N070174 - Attachments

**Product Investigations**

Mail Code: 480-210-G11 • 30001 Van Dyke • Warren, MI 48090-9055  
N070174 - 573 Letter.doc



573.6(c)(2),(3),(4)

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

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES (FROM) (TO)</u>		<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Chevrolet	L	2007	348	12/2006	05/2007	Equinox	*
Pontiac	L	2007	89	12/2006	05/2007	Torrent	"
	GM Total:		437				

\* All involved vehicles will be corrected as required.

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