



December 2, 2008

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

**08V-634**  
**(2 pages)**

Dear Mr. Smith:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.7 as it applies to a determination by General Motors of a noncompliance involving certain 2009 model year Chevrolet Malibu hybrid vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet Brand 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 2009 model year Chevrolet Malibu hybrid vehicles fail to conform to Federal/Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 103, Windshield Defrosting and Defogging System. In these vehicles, the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system may become inoperative. If this were to occur, the blower would not function properly and the mode selector would remain in the last known setting. If the windshield began to fog or frost, there may not be enough airflow to clear the windshield, resulting in reduced driver visibility.

573.6(c)(7): On October 14, 2008, the GM Program Quality Manager contacted the GM Program Engineering Manager concerning a warranty spike in the daily claims for vehicles produced between August 15, 2008 and September 16, 2008.

It was determined that suspect controls were 2008 parts that were re-flashed with 2009 software. A comparison was made between the Build Sequence numbers on the HVAC Control Heads and the re-flash station logs. This comparison indicated that all contained units which did not pass bench testing had been re-flashed on station #2 on or after August 11, 2008.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on November 21, 2008, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a noncompliance recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to reprogram the HVAC control head module.

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): The dealer bulletin and owner letter were provided under separate cover. The dealer bulletin was sent November 25, 2008 and owner letters will be mailed December 17, 2008.

Sincerely,

For Gay P. Kent  
Director  
Product Investigations

N080388  
Attachment

**Product Investigations**

Mail Code: 480-210-G11 • 30001 Van Dyke Road • Warren, MI 48090-9020  
N080388 - 573 Letter

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2008 DEC -2 10:35 AM

DEFECTS INVESTIGATION  
RECALL MGMT DIV.

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	Z	2009	77	08/14/2008 09/19/2008	Malibu hybrid	*
GM Total:			77			

\* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

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