

09V-150 (3 Pages)

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April 29, 2009

Mr. Daniel C. Smith Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E., W45-231 Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

Subject: Ford Motor Company (Ford) Recall No. 09C07 - Certain 2009 Model Year F-150 trucks for brake stop lamp switch adjustment

Summary

- <u>Ford Action</u> Ford is conducting a voluntary compliance recall involving certain 2009 model year F-150 trucks to provide proper adjustment for the brake stop lamp switch by removing and reinstalling the switch.
- <u>Number of Vehicles Involved</u> Approximately 8,735 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories.
- <u>Description of Non-Compliance</u> The brake stop lamp switch installation sequence at the vehicle assembly plant was revised and may have resulted in an improperly adjusted switch. This may result in a delay in brake stop lamp illumination when the brake pedal is depressed and the service brakes have been activated. In situations of light brake pedal application, the stop lamps may not illuminate. Section S5.5.4 of FMVSS 108 requires illumination of the brake stop lamps upon application of the service brakes. As of April 27, 2009 there are no reports of accidents or injuries attributed to this condition.
- <u>Service Program</u> Ford notified dealers not to demonstrate or deliver the affected vehicles until the service procedure has been performed. Ford will notify owners and instruct them to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer to have the brake stop lamp switch removed and reinstalled which will provide proper adjustment.

Attached is the detailed information required by the applicable portions of 49 CFR Part 573 - Defect and Non-Compliance Information Report.

Sincerely,

James P. Vondale

Attachment

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<u>49 CFR Part 573 - NON-COMPLIANCE INFORMATION REPORT</u> 09C07 - 2009 MODEL YEAR FORD F-150 TRUCKS

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Noncompliance Reports, Ford Motor Company (Ford) submits the following information concerning a potential noncompliance to the requirements of Section S5.5.4 of FMVSS 108 for certain 2009 model year F-150 trucks.

573.6 (c) (2) - Potentially Affected Vehicles

Certain F-150 trucks built from March 19, 2009 through April 7, 2009 at the Dearborn Truck Plant are potentially affected.

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 (1-866-436-7332) 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 8,735 vehicles in the United States and federalized territories.

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

Unknown.

573.6 (c) (5) - Description of Non-Compliance

The brake stop lamp switch installation sequence at the vehicle assembly plant was revised and may have resulted in an improperly adjusted switch. This may result in a delay in brake stop lamp illumination when the brake pedal is depressed and the service brakes have been activated. In situations of light brake pedal application, the stop lamps may not illuminate. Section S5.5.4 of FMVSS 108 requires illumination of the brake stop lamps upon application of the service brakes. As of April 27, 2009 there are no reports of accidents or injuries attributed to this condition.

573.6 (c) (7) - Basis of Non-Compliance Determination

The potential for this condition was identified on evaluation vehicles at the Dearborn Truck Plant on April 6, 2009. On April 15, 2009 the Ford Compliance Review Committee was notified. On April 21, 2009, an investigation was undertaken which included assembly process reviews and drive evaluations with instrumented vehicles. On April 22, 2009, it was determined that on some vehicles, the brake stop lamp illumination may be delayed or not illuminate when the service brakes are activated.

573.6 (c) (8) - Service Program

Ford has notified dealers not to demonstrate or deliver the affected vehicles until the service procedure has been performed. Ford will notify owners and instruct them to take their vehicles to a Ford or Lincoln/Mercury dealer to have the brake stop lamp switch removed and reinstalled which will provide proper adjustment.

Mailing of owner notification letters will occur on May 13, 2009. Notification to dealers occurred on April 24, 2009.

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) (10) - Press Statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

Ford does not at this time plan to make a public statement concerning the subject matter of this action. A copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners from Ford will be forwarded when available.

573.6 (c) (11) - Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 09C07 to this action.