



GENERAL MOTORS LLC
Global Interior and Safety Center

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10V-240
(5 Pages)

June 4, 2010

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 safety defect involving various 2006-2009 model year vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Cadillac, Chevrolet, GMC, Buick, Saturn and Hummer Brands of General Motors

573.6(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2006-2009 model year Buick Lucerne; Cadillac DTS; HUMMER H2; 2008-2009 model year Buick Enclave; Cadillac CTS; 2007-2009 model year Cadillac Escalade, Escalade ESV, Escalade EXT; Chevrolet Avalanche, Silverado, Suburban, Tahoe; GMC Acadia, Sierra, Yukon, Yukon XL; Saturn OUTLOOK; and 2009 model year Chevrolet Traverse vehicles equipped with a heated washer fluid system (HWFS). A recall was implemented in 2008 for many of the vehicles listed above to add a fuse to the control circuit harness to address the potential consequences of a printed circuit board (PCB) electrical short. However, there have been new reports of thermal incidents on HWFS modules after this improvement was installed. These incidents resulted from a new failure mode attributed to the device's thermal protection feature. The significance varies from minor distortion to considerable melting of the plastic around the HWFS fluid chamber. In rare circumstances, it is possible for the heated washer module to ignite.

573.6(c)(6): On August 27, 2008, GM announced safety recall 08048 (08V-441) on certain 2006-2008 model year Buick Lucerne; Cadillac DTS; HUMMER H2; 2007-2008 model year Cadillac Escalade, Escalade ESV, Escalade EXT; Chevrolet Avalanche, Silverado, Suburban, Tahoe; GMC Acadia, Sierra, Yukon, Yukon XL; Saturn OUTLOOK; and 2008 model year Buick Enclave vehicles equipped with a heated washer fluid module.



The investigation found shorts on the module PCB that could result in fires. The recall consisted of adding a fuse to the 5 volt control circuit to prevent a PCB short from progressing.

In the first quarter of 2009, GM began to receive reports of thermal incidents on vehicles that had received a fuse or had been built with a fuse. In June 2009, GM found evidence that indicated during the PCB short or soon after, one of the two heater relays was activated and overheated the fluid chamber because the module's internal thermal protection device (solder cup) did not function as designed. The first confirmed report of this failure mode resulted in smoke only.

In August 2009, GM reviewed with NHTSA the field data for post recall unattended fires. At that time there were none confirmed.

In September 2009, the NHTSA informed GM of an attended vehicle fire on a post recall module. GM obtained that module and in October 2009 confirmed that the cause of the fire was due to a short on the PCB that resulted in solder flowing, bridging the 12 volt terminals at the base of the module. GM continued to monitor the field performance of the HWFS. In December 2009, GM informed the NHTSA about the results of the module analyzed in October and the solder cup failure mode. At that time there were no confirmed reports of fires related to failure of the solder cup.

In February 2010, Product Investigations received the first confirmation of an unattended fire on a fused module. This incident was in a 2008 Buick Lucerne. A second one with the same root cause was confirmed a short time later on a 2008 GMC Acadia. In April 2010, GM became aware of a third unattended fire in a 2008 Buick Enclave. One attended fire for the same root cause was confirmed on a 2007 GMC Yukon. On May 14, 2010, data analysis and projections of future incidents were completed for the potential condition.

Four fires are believed to have occurred due to the failure of the solder cup. Three of these occurred while the vehicles were unattended.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on June 1, 2010, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers will permanently disable and remove the heated washer fluid module. An updated page for the Owner Manual will be provided and inserted in the Owner Manual to document that the feature has been permanently disabled and removed from the vehicle.

GM will compensate the owner for the loss of this feature.

It is anticipated that the dealer bulletin will be sent on June 7, 2010 and owner letters will be mailed on June 14, 2010.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM will provide reimbursement to owners for repairs completed on or before ten days after the owner mailing is completed, according to the plan submitted on January 22, 2009.

Letter to Mr. Daniel C. Smith
573 Letter N100153
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573.6(c)(9): General Motors provided copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter under separate cover.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. P. Kent", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gay P. Kent,
Director, Product Investigations
and Safety Regulations

N100153
Attachment

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

MAKE	MODEL SERIES	MODEL YEAR	NUMBER INVOLVED	INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES		DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.	EST. NO. W/CONDITION
				(FROM)	(TO)		
Buick	R	2008	55,083	02/2007	07/2008	Enclave	*
Buick	R	2009	7,861	04/2008	09/2008	Enclave	"
Buick	H	2006	17,056	05/2005	06/2006	Lucerne	"
Buick	H	2007	49,153	04/2006	06/2007	Lucerne	"
Buick	H	2008	40,440	03/2007	07/2008	Lucerne	"
Buick	H	2009	4,881	05/2008	09/2008	Lucerne	"
Cadillac	K	2006	52,392	05/2005	06/2006	DTS	"
Cadillac	K	2007	36,816	04/2006	06/2007	DTS	"
Cadillac	K	2008	35,277	03/2007	07/2008	DTS	"
Cadillac	K	2009	5,034	05/2008	11/2008	DTS	"
Cadillac	D	2008	53,305	04/2007	06/2008	CTS	"
Cadillac	D	2009	18,517	03/2008	09/2008	CTS	"
Cadillac	C/K	2007	60,462	10/2005	06/2007	Escalade	"
Cadillac	C/K	2008	30,212	04/2007	06/2008	Escalade	"
Cadillac	C/K	2009	4,295	04/2008	09/2008	Escalade	"
Cadillac	C/K	2007	24,844	02/2006	06/2007	Escalade ESV	"
Cadillac	C/K	2008	14,864	04/2007	06/2008	Escalade ESV	"
Cadillac	C/K	2009	1,280	04/2008	10/2008	Escalade ESV	"
Cadillac	C/K	2007	11,913	02/2006	06/2007	Escalade EXT	"
Cadillac	C/K	2008	6,181	04/2007	06/2008	Escalade EXT	"
Cadillac	C/K	2009	346	05/2008	09/2008	Escalade EXT	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2007	33,363	02/2006	06/2007	Avalanche	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2008	20,729	04/2007	06/2008	Avalanche	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2009	431	05/2008	10/2008	Avalanche	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2007	90,774	07/2006	07/2007	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2008	89,381	04/2007	08/2008	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2009	3,026	04/2008	10/2008	Silverado	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2007	50,529	02/2006	07/2007	Suburban	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2008	38,332	04/2007	06/2008	Suburban	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2009	480	04/2008	09/2008	Suburban	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2007	87,877	09/2005	07/2007	Tahoe	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2008	52,605	04/2007	06/2008	Tahoe	"
Chevrolet	C/K	2009	1,108	04/2008	09/2008	Tahoe	"
Chevrolet	R	2009	823	06/2008	09/2008	Traverse	"

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

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>MANUFACTURING DATES (FROM)</u>	<u>MANUFACTURING DATES (TO)</u>	<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Saturn	RV	2007	12,950	01/2007	06/2007	Outlook	"
Saturn	RV	2008	19,635	04/2007	07/2008	Outlook	"
Saturn	RV	2009	2,151	04/2008	09/2008	Outlook	"
GMC	R	2007	20,476	12/2006	06/2007	Acadia	"
GMC	R	2008	38,376	04/2007	07/2008	Acadia	"
GMC	R	2009	9,421	04/2008	09/2008	Acadia	"
GMC	C/K	2007	43,332	07/2006	06/2007	Sierra	"
GMC	C/K	2008	57,173	04/2007	08/2008	Sierra	"
GMC	C/K	2009	2,030	04/2008	10/2008	Sierra	"
GMC	C/K	2007	57,307	09/2005	07/2007	Yukon	"
GMC	C/K	2008	29,630	04/2007	06/2008	Yukon	"
GMC	C/K	2009	896	04/2008	09/2008	Yukon	"
GMC	C/K	2007	41,135	02/2006	07/2007	Yukon XL	"
GMC	C/K	2008	23,561	04/2007	06/2008	Yukon XL	"
GMC	C/K	2009	687	04/2008	09/2008	Yukon XL	"
Hummer	N	2006	1,854	06/2005	04/2006	H2	"
Hummer	N	2007	1,523	08/2006	03/2007	H2	"
Hummer	N	2008	2,864	05/2007	07/2008	H2	"
Hummer	N	2009	399	06/2008	09/2008	H2	"
GM Total:			1,365,070				

* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

573.6(c)(2)(iv): Microheat, Inc.
 38755 Hills Tech Dr.
 Farmington Hills, MI 48331-3408, United States
 (248)489-2400

On November 13, 2008, the voluntary petition of Microheat, Inc. for reorganization under Chapter 11 was converted to Chapter 7. It had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on October 13, 2008.