

October 18, 2011

11V-511 (3 Pages)

Mr. Claude Harris Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Recall Management Division (NVS-215) 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306 Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Harris:

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 2012 model year Chevrolet Equinox and GMC Terrain vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet and GMC Brands of General Motors Company

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

<u>573.6(c)(5)</u>: General Motors has decided that certain 2012 model year Chevrolet Equinox and GMC Terrain vehicles fail to conform to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 138, Tire Pressure Monitoring System. The Tire Pressure Monitoring System is designed to illuminate the Tire Pressure Warning Light when the pressure in a tire is 25% below the recommended cold tire pressure. On these vehicles, the light does not illuminate until the tire pressure is more than 25% below the recommended cold tire pressure. Underinflated tires can result in tire overloading and overheating, which could lead to a blowout and possible crash. The resulting crash could cause serious injury. Underinflated tires can also result in premature or irregular wear, poor handling, and poor fuel economy.

<u>573.6(c)(7)</u>: The issue was discovered on August 29, 2011, by a company car driver who received his monthly vehicle status email from OnStar that did not include a report of the tire pressure. Based on his knowledge of the OnStar program, he knew that the report should have included the tire pressure. He contacted the OnStar team, who quickly determined that some of the subject vehicles had an incorrect recommended tire pressure of 3 psi stored in the vehicle's Body Control Module (BCM). The OnStar team contacted the Product Engineering team responsible for the BCM on August 30, 2011. On September 6, 2011, a GM Product Investigations engineer was assigned to investigate the issue.



Letter to Mr. Claude Harris N110261 573 Letter October 18, 2011 Page 2

From September 7 to September 26, the Product Investigations engineer focused on understanding the root cause of the issue. The investigation determined that the correct recommended tire pressures were communicated to all assembly plants building the subject vehicles. However, the CAMI plant in Ingersol, Ontario, was using a data system that was incorrectly configured to retrieve the tire pressure data values from the engineering system table that were loaded into the Dynamic Vehicle Test (DVT) system to be downloaded into each vehicle's BCM. The information on the tire pressure label is correct.

Upon discovery of the issue, the Ingersoll assembly plant was notified and put vehicles on a shipping hold until they were remedied. The correct recommended tire inflation pressure was manually inputted into the DVT system to continue vehicle production.

The engineering team performed a review of other assembly plant tables, as well as prior model years at the CAMI plant, and determined that no other assembly plants, models or model years are involved in this issue.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on October 13, 2011, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a noncompliance recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to update the Body Control Module.

GM sent the dealer bulletin on October 14, 2011, and anticipates mailing owner letters on October 21, 2011.

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.

<u>573.6(c)(10)</u>: GM will provide copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter under separate cover.

Sincerely,

M. Cen Re

M. Carmen Benavides, Director Product Investigations & Safety Regulations

11261 Attachment

573.6(c)(2).(3).(4)

VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR

573.6(c)(2)(iv): Not applicable. This issue is a vehicle assembly plant responsibility.

11261