

VOLKSWAGEN

GROUP OF AMERICA

Ms. Nancy Lummen Lewis
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Christopher T. Sandvig NAME
General Manager Compliance/TREAD Title
Product Compliance Department
248-754-5000 Phone
248-754-5093 Fax
November 22, 2013 Date

Subject: Notification of Voluntary Recall
2009 - 2011 Model Year Volkswagen Tiguan
Fuse (Plug-in Position F16)

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA, INC
3800 HAMLIN ROAD
AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326
PHONE +1 248 754 5000

Dear Ms. Lewis:

This information is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR 573 (2013)).

573.6 (c) (1) **Manufacturer's Name**
Volkswagen AG

Importer
Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (VWGoA)

573.6 (c) (2) **Identification of Vehicles**

Make : Volkswagen

Line : Tiguan

Model Year : 2009-2011

Month/Year
of Manufacture : July 2007 – June 2011

VIN Numbers
of Affected Vehicles: WVG ___5N_9W000002 - WVG ___AX_BW570423

Other Identification : None

573.6 (c) (3) **Number of Vehicles Potentially Containing the Defect**
62,155 vehicles are affected by this defect in the United States.

573.6 (c) (4) **Percentage of Vehicles Actually Containing the Defect**
Approximately 100% of the affected vehicles contain the defect.

573.6 (c) (5) **Description of Defect**
High thermal cycling and a soft-coated fuse used at the F16 location may cause movement between the socket and the fuse blade. This thermal dilution may cause abrasions on the fuse blade coating, which increases resistance. If this happens it may result in localized overheating. This, in turn, can disrupt the electrical current flow to the vehicle's exterior lights and cause a partial loss (but not a complete failure) of the vehicle's exterior lighting. A warning lamp and message in the instrument cluster will immediately alert the driver. Failing illumination may lead to reduced visibility of the vehicle and may lead to a crash.

573.6 (c) (6) **Basis for Determination**
June 2013: Quality analysis reported increasing failures of fuses (plug-in position F16) in Tiguan vehicles. The topic was presented to the product safety committee and investigation of failure consequences was initiated. At that time the focus was on slightly melted material around the plug-in position. No report of open fire or severe component overheating was reported to Volkswagen.

July 2013: Continued analysis and investigation of failure cause and consequences.

August 2013: VWGoA reported a different failure pattern for model year 2009 Tiguan (that suggested the possibility for different lights to fail on vehicles from different model years).

September 2013: Comparison of different Tiguan model years and engine/gearbox combinations initiated in order to understand the cause.

October 2013: Analysis of the field situation in foreign markets.

November 8, 2013: Topic was re-evaluated in product safety committee. A decision was made that field failure rate, in combination with failure consequence, established a safety-related defect.

573.6 (c) (7) **Noncompliance Test Result**
Not applicable

573.6 (c) (8) **Proposed Remedial Program**
Volkswagen plans to notify all owners of affected vehicles and will instruct them to arrange for an appointment with an authorized Volkswagen dealer. At no cost to customers, dealers will replace the existing F16 position fuse with a new, optimized hard-coated fuse.

Dealers: December 2013

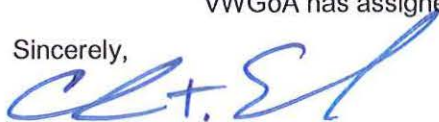
Owners: December 2013

573.6 (c) (9) **Submission of Communications**
A representative copy of all bulletins and other communications sent to dealers and owners will be submitted within five (5) days of dealer/owner notification.

573.6 (c) (10) **Proposed Owner Letter**
A draft owner's letter will be submitted to the agency for review and approval.

573.6 (c) (11) **Manufacturer's Recall Code**
VWGoA has assigned the code 97Z9/2V to this recall.

Sincerely,



Christopher T. Sandvig
General Manager Compliance/TREAD