



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 11, 2016

Mr. Todd Fronckowiak
Global Automotive Safety Compliance Office
Ford Motor Company
Fairlane Plaza South, Suite 500
330 Town Center Drive
Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

NEF-150SM
16V-245

Subject: Rear Suspension Toe Link may be Improperly Welded

Dear Mr. Fronckowiak:

This letter serves to acknowledge Ford Motor Company's notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

FORD/EXPLORER/2014-2015

Mfr's Report Date: April 25, 2016

NHTSA Campaign Number: 16V-245

Components:

SUSPENSION:REAR

Potential Number of Units Affected: 75,364

Problem Description:

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain model year 2014-2015 Ford Explorer vehicles manufactured January 17, 2014 to May 31, 2014. The affected vehicles may have improperly welded rear suspension toe links that may fracture.

Consequence:

A fracture of the rear suspension toe link may result in a loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will replaced the rear suspension toe links, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in May 2016. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 16S18.

Notes:

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

We have received Ford's proposed owner notification letter and have approved it for distribution.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Mcshane who may be reached by phone at 202-366-7401, or by email at sarah.mcshane@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "T".

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigations
Enforcement