



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 19, 2018

Mr. David Roberts  
Norcold Inc.  
Vice President  
600 South Kuther Road  
Sidney, OH 45365

NEF-150MR  
18E-013

**Subject:** Refrigerator may Leak Propane

Dear Mr. Roberts:

This letter serves to acknowledge Norcold Inc.'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:**

NORCOLD/REFRIGERATOR/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** March 7, 2018

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 18E-013

**Components:**

EQUIPMENT:RECREATIONAL VEHICLE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,582

**Problem Description:**

Norcold Inc. (Norcold) is recalling certain Norcold refrigerators, models N305, N305.3, N306 and N306.3, part number 635690. These refrigerators have gas valve port screws that may be missing or loose allowing propane to leak inside the passenger compartment when the refrigerator is used in gas mode.

**Consequence:**

A propane leak in the presence of an ignition source can increase the risk of a fire.

**Remedy:**

Norcold will notify the recreational vehicle manufacturers that purchased the affected refrigerators, and dealers for those manufacturers will inspect the gas valves, tightening them if necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 20, 2018. Owners may contact Norcold customer service at 1-800-767-9101.

**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](http://www.safercar.gov).

We have received Norcold's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please amend your Defect Information report to include a list of the businesses that purchased the affected refrigerators.

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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The information in your report suggests that Norcold may have been aware of this issue more than five business days before filing a report with NHTSA. Please be reminded that under Federal law, this agency is to be notified of all safety defect and/or noncompliance decisions within five business days. 49 CFR 573.6 Significant civil penalties can be assessed for this violation.

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 Michelle Rice who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-1060, or by email at michelle.rice@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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