

December 20, 2018

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

Subject: Block Heater Cable Splice Connector May Corrode

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/F-150/2015-2019 FORD/F-250/2017-2019 FORD/F-350/2017-2019 FORD/F-450/2017-2019 FORD/F-550/2017-2019

Mfr's Report Date: December 18, 2018

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V-894

**Components:** ENGINE

Potential Number of Units Affected: 410,289

# **Problem Description:**

Ford Motor Company (Ford) is recalling certain 2015-2019 Ford F-150 and 2017-2019 Ford F-250 Super Duty, F-350 Super Duty, F-450 Super Duty, and F-550 Super Duty pick-up trucks equipped with an engine block heater. Water and contaminants may get into the block heater cable's splice connector causing corrosion and damage.

# **Consequence:**

When the heater is plugged in, prolonged corrosion could cause a resistive short, increasing the risk of overheated or melted wiring and a fire.

# **Remedy:**

Ford will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and seal the block heater cable, or replace it, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin January 7, 2019. Owners may contact Ford customer service at 1-866-436-7332. Ford's number for this recall is 18S45.

## 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.



1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-150JK 18V-894

We have received Ford'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 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.

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 Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-2461, or by email at jennifer.kruger@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

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Kareem Habib Acting Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations Enforcement

