

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

18V-921

Manufacturer Name : Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)**Submission Date :** DEC 20, 2018**NHTSA Recall No. :** 18V-921**Manufacturer Recall No. :** A30**Manufacturer Information :****Population :**

Manufacturer Name : Honda (American Honda Motor Co.)

Number of potentially involved : 1,082

Address : 1919 Torrance Blvd.

Estimated percentage with defect : 100 %

Torrance CA 90501

Company phone : 1-888-234-2138

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2017-2017 Honda Clarity Fuel Cell

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on manufacturing records. The production range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

All model year 2017 and 2018 Clarity Fuel Cell vehicles are included in the recall.

Number of affected units is 911

Production Dates : NOV 17, 2016 - DEC 28, 2017

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2018-2018 Honda Clarity Fuel Cell

Vehicle Type :

Body Style :

Power Train : NR

Descriptive Information : The recall population was determined based on manufacturing records. The production range reflects all possible vehicles that could potentially experience the problem.

All model year 2017 and 2018 Clarity Fuel Cell vehicles are included in the recall.

Number of affected units is 171.

Production Dates : DEC 29, 2017 - FEB 28, 2018

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : The software programming remedy for NHTSA Recall 18V-068 did not completely countermeasure the potential defect of motive power loss due to misinterpretation of a small decrease in cell voltage. As a result, the Fuel Cell (FC)-ECU could misinterpret a small cell voltage drop as the deterioration of the fuel cell stack possibly causing the warning indicator to illuminate.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : If the warning indicator illuminates, the vehicle may enter EV limp mode or may lose motive power and come to a stop increasing the risk of a crash.

Description of the Cause : NR

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : Warning indicator will illuminate.

Supplier Identification :**Component Manufacturer**

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Chronology :

January 25, 2018

Honda submitted NHTSA recall 18V-068.

May 31, 2018

Honda received the first report of a vehicle losing motive power since NHTSA recall 18V-068 was launched and began an investigation.

July to September 2018

Honda received the second and third report of a vehicle losing motive power. In the three reported failures, a pair of the vehicle's fuel cell stack end part cells exhibited slight deterioration in the cell membrane separating the hydrogen and oxygen electrode, resulting in a small cell voltage decrease.

October to November 2018

Honda learned that the previous countermeasure software for NHTSA recall 18V-068 did not appropriately detect the slight deterioration in the pair of end part cells. Rather, the software was designed to measure cell membrane deterioration in an individual cell. If cell membrane deterioration in a pair of cells was insufficient in meeting the detection threshold standard, the cumulative small drop in voltage from the pair of cells could

be misinterpreted as fuel cell stack deterioration and potentially result in a loss of motive power.

December 13, 2018

Honda determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety existed and decided to conduct a safety recall.

As of December 13, 2018 Honda has received three warranty claims, three field reports, and no reports of crashes or injuries related to this issue.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Registered owners of all affected vehicles will be contacted by mail and asked to take their vehicle to a Honda automobile dealer. The dealer will reprogram the FC-ECU with software programming designed to detect small cell voltage drops, provide warning in the instrument panel of reduced motive power, and to see a Honda dealer. Vehicle operation at reduced motive power should last up to one month before the vehicle could potentially lose all motive power due to misinterpretation of a small cell voltage drop as the deterioration of the fuel cell stack.

Because the limited new vehicle warranty on all affected vehicles would have provided a free repair for the problem addressed by this recall, without any payment by the owner, reimbursement for pre-notification repairs will not be offered.

How Remedy Component Differs
from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition
was Corrected in Production : NR

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer notification is expected to begin on or about December 21, 2018.
Owner notification is expected to begin on or about February 14, 2019.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : DEC 21, 2018 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : FEB 14, 2019 - NR

* NR - Not Reported