



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

December 8, 2021

Mary Ellen Hogan  
Associate General Counsel  
Tenneco Automotive  
400 N. Field Dr.  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

NEF-107KL  
21E-097

**Subject:** Improperly Heat-Treated Tie Rods May Fail

Dear Mary Ellen Hogan:

This letter serves to acknowledge Tenneco Automotive'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:**

MOOG/TIE ROD END/9999  
NAPA/TIE ROD END/9999

**Mfr's Report Date:** November 30, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21E-097

**Components:**

STEERING:LINKAGES:TIE ROD ASSEMBLY

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 1,306

**Problem Description:**

Tenneco Automotive (DBA as DRiV) is recalling certain MOOG tie rods, with part numbers EV801120 and EV800964, and NAPA NCP tie rods, with part number 2693957. The tie rods may not have been heat-treated properly, which can cause them to fail.

**Consequence:**

Tie rod failure can cause a loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

DRiV will work with its distributor/retailer customers to replace the tie rods, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed December 13, 2021. Owners may contact Tenneco customer service at 1-877-489-6659 or [RECALL.SUPPORT@DRIV.COM](mailto:RECALL.SUPPORT@DRIV.COM).

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



Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, 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 eight 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.

Tenneco Automotive's contact for this recall will be Kristin Lepper who may be reached by email at [kristin.lepper@dot.gov](mailto:kristin.lepper@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement