



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

February 8, 2021

Mr. Ron Tedesco  
Recalls Primary  
General Motors, LLC  
30001 Van Dyke  
Warren, MI 48090

NEF-150DM  
21V-051

**Subject:** Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Explode

Dear Mr. Tedesco:

This letter serves to acknowledge General Motors, LLC'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:**

CADILLAC/ESCALADE/2012  
CADILLAC/ESCALADE ESV/2012  
CADILLAC/ESCALADE EXT/2012  
CHEVROLET/AVALANCHE/2012  
CHEVROLET/SILVERADO 1500/2012  
CHEVROLET/SILVERADO 2500/2012  
CHEVROLET/SILVERADO 3500/2012  
CHEVROLET/SUBURBAN/2012  
CHEVROLET/TAHOE/2012  
GMC/SIERRA 1500/2012  
GMC/SIERRA 2500/2012  
GMC/SIERRA 3500/2012  
GMC/YUKON/2012  
GMC/YUKON XL/2012

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 5, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21V-051

**Components:**

AIR BAGS:FRONTAL:PASSENGER SIDE:INFLATOR MODULE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 284,645

**Problem Description:**

General Motors, LLC (GM) is recalling certain 2012 Cadillac Escalade, Escalade ESV, Escalade EXT, Chevrolet Avalanche, Silverado 1500, Silverado 2500/3500, Suburban, Tahoe, GMC Sierra 1500, Sierra 2500/3500, Yukon, and Yukon XL originally sold, or ever registered, in the states of Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the U.S. Virgin Islands or "Zone A."

These vehicles are equipped with non-desiccated passenger frontal inflators containing phase-stabilized ammonium nitrate (PSAN)



propellant. These inflators may explode due to propellant degradation occurring after long-term exposure to high absolute humidity, high temperatures, and high temperature cycling.

**Consequence:**

An inflator explosion may result in sharp metal fragments striking the driver or other occupants, resulting in serious injury or death.

**Remedy:**

GM will notify owners, and dealers will replace the front passenger air bag inflator with an alternate one, free of charge. Interim letters notifying owners of the safety risk are expected to be mailed beginning March 1, 2021. Second notification letters will be mailed once the remedy is available. Owners may contact Cadillac customer service at 1-800-458-8006; Chevrolet customer service at 1-800-222-1020; and GMC customer service at 1-800-462-8782. GM's number for this recall is N212328770.

**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 note that your report states that GM believes that this matter does not pose a safety risk. In our view, this statement has no force or effect in terms of GM's obligation to undertake and complete the recall, and NHTSA does not agree with it.


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 DeMara Magruder who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-8538, or by email at [demara.magruder@dot.gov](mailto:demara.magruder@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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