



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 29, 2021

Mr. Greg Gunther
Department Manager VCA
Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC
13470 International Parkway
Jacksonville, FL 32218

NEF-107JK
21V-288

Subject: Water Intrusion from AC Drain Hose May Cause Short

Dear Mr. Gunther:

This letter serves to acknowledge Mercedes-Benz USA, 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:

MERCEDES-BENZ/AMG GLE53/2021
MERCEDES-BENZ/GLE350/2020
MERCEDES-BENZ/GLE450/2020
MERCEDES-BENZ/GLE580/2020
MERCEDES-BENZ/GLS450/2020
MERCEDES-BENZ/GLS580/2020

Mfr's Report Date: April 23, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-288

Components:

EQUIPMENT:APPLIANCE:AIR CONDITIONER

Potential Number of Units Affected: 6,331

Problem Description:

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA) is recalling certain 2021 AMG GLE 53, 2020 GLE350, GLE450, GLE580, GLS450, and GLS580 vehicles. The air conditioner drain hoses may have been incorrectly installed, causing water to drain into the passenger compartment.

Consequence:

Water intrusion into the driver and passenger side foot wells may cause corrosion and/or short circuits to electrical components, increasing the risk of fire. In addition, the emergency call (eCall) feature may be disabled and the doors may not unlock, increasing the risk of injury. Also, the engine may not start or may enter a limp-home mode, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Dealers will inspect and correct the air conditioner drain hoses, as necessary, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed on June 22, 2021. Owners may contact MBUSA customer service at 1-800-367-6372.



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.

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 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.

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC's contact for this recall will be Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by email at jennifer.kruger@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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