



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 3, 2021

Mr. Cole Stutz  
Hyundai Motor America  
10550 Talbert Avenue  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

NEF-107JK  
21V-301

**Subject:** Improperly Heat-Treated Piston Oil Rings

Dear Mr. Stutz:

This letter serves to acknowledge Hyundai Motor America'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:**

HYUNDAI/ELANTRA/2019-2020

HYUNDAI/KONA/2019-2021

HYUNDAI/VELOSTER/2019-2021

**Mfr's Report Date:** April 28, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21V-301

**Components:**

ENGINE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 125,840

**Problem Description:**

Hyundai Motor America (Hyundai) is recalling certain 2019-2020 Elantra, 2019-2021 Kona and Veloster vehicles equipped with 2.0L Nu MPI engines. The piston oil rings may not have been properly heat-treated, which could result in engine damage.

**Consequence:**

A damaged engine may stall, increasing the risk of a crash. In addition, oil may leak onto hot exhaust components, increasing the risk of a fire.

**Remedy:**

Dealers will inspect and, if necessary, replace the engine, free of charge. In addition, Hyundai will deploy Piston Ring Noise Sensing System (PNSS) software. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed June 25, 2021. Owners may contact Hyundai customer service at 1-855-371-9460.

**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).

**Please ensure the following requirements are met:**

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the piston assembly. If your company manufactured the component itself, then please state so in 573.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

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.

Hyundai Motor America's contact for this recall will be Jennifer Kruger who may be reached by email at [jennifer.kruger@dot.gov](mailto:jennifer.kruger@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



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