



May 5, 2023

## INTERIM NOTICE UPDATE

# ATTENTION: ALL DEALER PRINCIPALS

This is an interim notice to keep you informed of Kia's recall implementation plan and provide you with an update as we work on developing a final remedy. In the meantime, Kia has developed an initial remedy to mitigate fire risk. Kia will send you another notice when a final remedy is available.

Kia America, Inc., pursuant to the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, is conducting a Safety Recall Campaign on certain vehicles equipped with a Genuine Kia tow hitch harness accessory supplied by Mobis Parts America.

- 2016-2022 MY Sorento vehicles manufactured from October 27, 2014 to September 12, 2022,
- 2021-2023 MY Sorento HEV vehicles manufactured from September 2, 2020 to August 31, 2022,
- 2022-2023 MY Sorento PHEV vehicles manufactured from June 29, 2021 to August 30, 2022, and
- 2017-2022 MY Sportage vehicles manufactured from December 10, 2015 to December 7, 2021

A fire may occur in the area of the tow hitch harness module while driving or while the vehicle is parked with the ignition off. Foreign material and moisture contamination on the tow hitch harness module printed circuit board (PCB) may result in an electrical short circuit, thereby increasing the risk of a tow hitch harness module fire. The origin of PCB contamination is currently unknown but is under investigation. A fire increases the risk of injury.

Kia will notify potentially affected owners regardless of whether their vehicle was equipped with a tow hitch harness as a port installed option (PIO) in effort to capture those vehicles that may have had a tow hitch harness installed as a dealer installed option (DIO).

Kia dealers will inspect and, if necessary, install a new fuse with a different capacity, as an initial remedy, to mitigate fire risk. When the final remedy becomes available, Kia will send a follow-up notice to dealers and customers. The new fuse installation and the final remedy will be performed free of charge at no cost to the customer.

Kia dealers have been advised not to sell the tow hitch harness and to return any unsold harnesses to Kia America.

Your Service Manager was sent a copy of the interim notice update owner notification letter and a Q&A guide for recall questions both of which describe the issue and information on how to access the list of affected vehicles. Kia will start mailing interim update notices to the affected vehicle owners beginning on **May 8, 2023**. A follow-up notice will be mailed once a remedy becomes available.

### What Should You Do?

Please make certain the appropriate personnel in your dealership are familiar with the details of this recall campaign to ensure proper responses to customer inquiries and requests to have the campaign performed on their vehicles.

**NHTSA ADVISORY: It is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle covered by this notification under a sale or lease until the defect is remedied.**

**LEGAL PRIVACY LIABILITY NOTICE:** Pursuant to the terms of the Dealer Sales and Service Agreement and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley federal consumer privacy act, you are required to keep confidential any and all information and documents provided to you by Kia America, Inc. or generated by you in the conduct of carrying out work under that Agreement regarding Kia vehicle purchasers and owners, including but not limited to warranty claim information. Kia dealers may use such owner information for the sole purpose of conducting and performing this safety recall campaign, and for no other purpose.

If you have any questions, please contact your Kia District Parts & Service Manager.

Sincerely,

Kia Service Department

Enclosures