

**2023MY Soul and 2024MY Seltos
Side Curtain Airbag
Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)**

July 10, 2023	Kia North America, Inc. (Kia NA) receives Technical Assistance Center report from dealer identifying inflation of left side curtain airbag on a parked non-retailed 2023MY Soul (Vehicle #1). Dealer inspects vehicle and identifies no signs of accident/impact, no DTCs and no curtain airbag deployment record.
August 7, 2023—August 18, 2023	Kia NA field technical specialist inspects Vehicle #1 and is unable to identify cause of airbag inflation. Kia begins process of repurchasing vehicle for further evaluation.
September 1, 2023	Kia NA receives Technical Assistance Center report from dealer identifying customer complaint of inadvertent inflation of left side curtain airbag in a parked 2023MY Kia Soul (Vehicle #2). Dealer inspects vehicle and identifies no signs of accident/impact, no DTCs and no curtain airbag deployment record.
September 7, 2023	Kia North NA Safety Office engineer inspects Vehicle #1 at dealer. EDR data confirms no airbag deployment was commanded by Airbag Control Unit (ACU). Cause of inadvertent inflation unknown.
September 12, 2023—September 25, 2023	<p>Repurchase of Vehicle #1 is finalized and shipped to Kia.</p> <p>Kia NA Safety Office conducts preliminary data analysis and identifies no additional incidents of side curtain airbag inflation without deployment command.</p> <p>Kia NA Safety Office engineer inspection of collected parts from Vehicle #1 and #2 identifies normal inflator resistance and no visible part defects.</p>
September 27, 2023—October 27, 2023	Kia NA Safety Office ships the curtain airbags and ACUs from Vehicle #1 and #2 to Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) for further investigation. Kia HQ receives parts and works with side curtain airbag module supplier to investigate further.
November 1, 2023	Kia HQ informs Kia NA Safety Office of its preliminary X-ray inspections results. Kia HQ advises both inflators appeared to have broken diffuser disks.

	Kia HQ informs Kia NA Safety Office that the Kia Seltos is equipped with the same inflator. Curtain airbag module supplier ships inflators from Vehicle #1 and #2 to inflator supplier for further analysis.
November 28, 2023	Kia HQ informs Kia NA Safety Office that the inflators from Vehicle #1 and Vehicle #2 were manufactured on 2/17/23 and 2/18/23. Kia HQ also identifies possible inflator supplier machine weld error.
November 29, 2023	Kia NA Safety Office data analysis confirms no additional incidents of inadvertent side curtain airbag inflation for the 2023MY Soul, other than the two (2) already identified. No incidents identified for the Kia Seltos.
November 30, 2023	Kia HQ confirms inadvertent inflation of the side curtain airbag is due to a diffuser disk welding setup error. Supplier identifies affected inflators manufactured on 2/17/23 and 2/18/23. Kia HQ provides Kia NA Safety Office scope of potentially affected vehicle population based on traceability from inflator supplier to side curtain airbag module supplier to Kia vehicle production.
November 30, 2023	Kia NA decides to recall certain 2023MY Soul and certain 2024MY Seltos vehicles. No crashes, injuries or fatalities.