



Nissan North America, Inc.

One Nissan Way
Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address:
PO Box 685001
Franklin, TN 37068

April 29, 2024

Ms. Eileen Sullivan
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
Room W48-302
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices.

Very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Swindell".

Will Swindell
Manager,
Technical Compliance

Encl.

DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

1. Manufacturer:

Nissan Mexicana, S.A. De C.V. Aguascalientes Plant 2

2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain Model Year 2024 Nissan Sentra vehicles as shown in the table below:

| <u>Model</u> | <u>Dates of Manufacture</u> | <u>Plant</u> |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|
| MY 2024 Nissan Sentra | July 21, 2023 through January 18, 2024 | Aguas 2 |

Based on internal Nissan records, the issue (as described in Section 5 below) occurred on certain Model Year 2024 Sentra vehicles that were subject to a recent plant retro-fit modification to replace the Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) assembly. No other Nissan or INFINITI vehicles are affected.

The name, description and part number of the subject components are below:

| <u>Part Name</u> | <u>Part Description</u> | <u>Part Number</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shaft Assy – Front Drive, Left-Hand | Front Left-Hand Drive Shaft | 39101 6LB0A |

3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 9,645 MY 2024 Nissan Sentra vehicles total.

4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Approximately 0.14%. 1% is used here because submission within NHTSA's safety portal will not allow a value less than 1%.

5. Description of the Defect:

The front left-hand drive shaft on affected vehicles may not be fully seated to the CVT assembly or may have a loose or missing retaining clip due to a potential installation error during a retrofit activity at the plant. In this condition, transmission fluid could leak resulting in reduced transmission fluid pressure, potential transmission jerking and/or hesitation, and illumination of the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL). There is potential risk under

certain circumstances that the drive shaft spline could fail to engage the differential gear in the CVT, causing a loss of motive power without prior warning.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

January 24, 2024 - Nissan received one (1) warranty report of a customer stating the distance sensor warning light illuminated while driving a Model Year 2024 Sentra vehicle. The investigation at the dealer initially identified fluid leaking from under the vehicle at the driver's side front axle. After further review, the transmission fluid leak originated at the front left-hand side of the transmission assembly. When the left-hand drive shaft was removed, the retaining clip was missing.

February 2024 - Nissan confirmed three (3) additional warranty claims of Model Year 2024 Sentra vehicles with front left-hand drive shaft not fully seated to the transmission, resulting in a fluid leak and MIL "ON". The investigation at the dealer found the vehicle's drive shaft was missing the retaining clip. Nissan launched an investigation and determined all four (4) vehicles were previously included in a plant retrofit activity.

Nissan conducted a yard audit at the Aguascalientes Plant II to inspect the front left-hand drive shaft on 514 Sentra vehicles that were previously repaired as part of the CVT retrofit activity. The yard audit identified three (3) Sentra vehicles with a loose or missing clip at the connection of the drive shaft to the transmission axle. Additionally, the drive shaft coupling appeared to not be installed correctly.

March 12, 2024 - Nissan received one (1) additional warranty claim with the subject condition and collected front left-hand drive shaft for analysis. Additionally, Nissan began an assessment, including a warranty parts collection activity, to understand the potential risk of this concern.

March 2024 - Nissan initiated a quality action on March 15, 2024 to dealerships for inspection, and if necessary, repair of all potentially affected MY 2024 Sentra vehicles in dealer inventory. Out of a total of 4,234 Sentra vehicles inspected as of April 24, 2024, 58 were found with the front left-hand drive shaft not fully seated to the transmission and repaired. Nissan also conducted a pre-delivery activity at the rail yard to inspect for proper drive shaft installation in certain MY 2024 Sentra vehicles.

April 2024 - Nissan received one (1) part from the warranty parts collection activity. The inspection confirmed a loose retaining clip on the drive shaft.

Nissan's assessment concluded that if the front left-hand side drive shaft is not fully seated in the CVT assembly and the retaining clip is loose or missing, it can cause a fluid leak and allow the pressure to become lower than expected. Under certain circumstances, the left-

hand drive shaft could disengage from the CVT and can lead to a loss of motive power without prior warning. In the event a drive shaft disengagement occurs, Nissan has confirmed the drive shaft remains captured and does not fully separate from the transmission.

April 22, 2024 - Nissan decided to conduct a Voluntary Safety Recall for all potentially affected vehicles included in the retrofit activity.

Nissan has confirmed a total of 9 (nine) warranty claims related to the subject condition. Nissan is not aware of any accident or injuries related to the subject condition.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Dealers were notified of a Quality Action on March 15, 2024 and will be notified of the recall beginning May 3, 2024.

Beginning June 20, 2024, owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified to bring their Sentra to a Nissan dealer for inspection of the front left-hand drive shaft assembly:

- If the drive shaft is installed correctly, no action is required.
- If the drive shaft is not fully seated, the dealer will replace both the drive shaft and CVT assembly.

All repairs will be performed free of charge for parts and labor. Inspection will take 30 minutes to conduct and if a replacement is necessary, the repair may take up to seven (7) hours to complete.

Nissan will not include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy since the subject vehicles are under warranty.

8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.