

December 22, 2011

Ms. Nancy Lewis  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by General Motors to conduct a safety related recall for certain 2012 model year Chevrolet Sonic vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Chevrolet Brand of General Motors Company

573.6(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2012 model year Chevrolet Sonic vehicles. On some of these vehicles, the front brake inner or outer pad may be missing. A missing pad could produce a noise when the brakes are applied, result in reduced brake system performance, and require a longer distance to stop the vehicle. If stopping distance is increased, a vehicle crash could occur.

573.6(c)(6): On November 29, 2011, a Problem Resolution Tracking System (PRTS) report was issued to GM assembly plant for a warranty claim with a missing inner brake pad. The customer brought the vehicle into the dealership due to the brake noise. There was no report of crash, injury or property damage. On December 2, 2011, this issue was assigned to a GM Product Investigations engineer to investigate. GM reviewed the process of the supplier and GM assembly to understand the root cause. The effect on vehicle performance was also reviewed.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on December 20, 2011, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to inspect the front brakes for missing inner or outer pads. If a brake pad is missing on a vehicle in dealer inventory, dealers are to install new inner and outer pads and, as necessary, install a new brake caliper assembly and/or brake rotor. If a brake pad is missing on a vehicle delivered to the customer, dealers are to install new inner and outer pads, a new brake caliper, and a new brake rotor.



GM anticipates sending the dealer bulletin on December 23, 2011 and mailing owner letters on January 14, 2012.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not plan to provide notice about reimbursement to owners because all involved vehicles are covered under the new vehicle warranty.

573.6(c)(10): GM will provide copies of the dealer bulletin and owner letter under separate cover.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Carmen Benavides". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

M. Carmen Benavides, Director  
Product Investigations and Safety Regulations

11354  
Attachment

573.6(c)(2),(3),(4)

VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR  
PLUS INCLUSIVE DATES OF MANUFACTURE

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES (FROM)</u>	<u>(TO)</u>	<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
Chevrolet	J	2012	4,296	06/02/2011	11/21/2011	Sonic	*
GM Total:			4,296				

\* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

573.6(c)(2)(iv): N/A

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