

NVS-212
L. Hershman

FEB 20 2013

David D. Dillon, Sr. Manager
Product Investigations & Campaigns
Chrysler Group LLC
800 Chrysler Drive
CIMS 482-00-91
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757

Re: Confidentiality Determination/PE10-031/EA12-005 fuel tank location data

Dear Mr. Dillon:

This responds to your October 1, 2012 request for confidential treatment for Chrysler Group LLC (Chrysler) information submitted subsequent to an August 29, 2012 presentation to investigators at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Specifically, Chrysler requests confidential treatment for an Excel document entitled "Fuel_Tank_Location_Info_09-21-12- Confidential Business Information.xlsx." Chrysler requests confidential treatment on a permanent basis.

Your request is granted.

Chrysler provided this information voluntarily. Accordingly, I have reviewed your request under the principles set forth in *Critical Mass Energy Project v. Nuclear Regulatory Comm'n*, 975 F.2d 871 (D.C.Cir.1992). Under the test set forth in *Critical Mass*, financial or commercial information provided to the government on a voluntary basis is "confidential" for purposes of Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4)) if it is the kind of information that would customarily not be released to the public by the submitter. Your request indicates that the information contained in the materials you submitted is information that Chrysler would not customarily release to the public. Review of the information indicates that these analyses are not publicly available. Accordingly, I am granting your request for confidential treatment to the information contained in your submission.

Subject to the conditions below, this grant will remain in effect indefinitely.

This grant of confidential treatment is subject to certain conditions. The information may be disclosed under 49 CFR § 512.22 based upon newly discovered or changed facts, and you must inform the agency of any changed circumstances that may affect the protection of the information (49 CFR § 512.10). Furthermore, this information may be disclosed if such

disclosure would be in the public interest, pursuant to the procedures established in 49 CFR § 512.23. If necessary, you will be notified prior to the release of any information under the procedures established by our regulations (49 CFR § 512.22(b)).

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Otto G. Matheke, III
Senior Attorney

NCC-111: Matheke: 65263:cyt:2/12/13

NCC-111: subj, om, cyt

NCC12-005440

NVS-212: Larry Hershman - w/enclosures

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David D. Dillon
Sr. Manager
Product Investigations & Campaigns

October 1, 2012

Mr. O. Kevin Vincent
Chief Counsel
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Room W41-227
Washington, DC 20590

2012 OCT -2 P 2:39
OFFICE OF CHIEF
COUNSEL

Re: Request for Confidential Treatment of Business Information Submitted in Connection with the PE10-031/EA12-005 Investigation

Dear Mr. Vincent:

Chrysler Group LLC (“Chrysler”) is voluntarily submitting copies of documents in connection with the ongoing PE10-031/EA12-005 investigation. A request for a copy of this information was made during a meeting, dated August 29, 2012, from Mr. Scott Yon to Mr. David D. Dillon of Chrysler. Based on a careful review of the submission, Chrysler has determined that some of the information in the submission is confidential and should be accorded confidential treatment under this agency’s regulations at 49 C.F.R. Part 512 and Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4).¹ Therefore, Chrysler is submitting the enclosed CDs together with this request for confidential treatment to the Office of Chief Counsel.

The information required by Part 512 is set forth below.

A. Description of the Information (49 C.F.R. § 512.8(a))

The business information for which confidential treatment is being sought consists of one Excel document entitled, “Fuel_Tank_Location_Info_09-21-12 - Confidential Business Information.xlsx”, which is contained in the folder entitled, “Fuel Tank Location Information - NHTSA 9-21-12 CONF BUS INFO”. (Chrysler was unable to Bates stamp the Excel table entitled “Fuel_Tank_Location_Info_09-21-12 - Confidential Business Information.xlsx”).

¹ Chrysler has taken steps to assure that the CDs are free of any errors or defects that would prevent NHTSA from opening the files on the discs. If, however, the agency is unable to open the files, Chrysler respectfully requests that the agency inform Chrysler of the issue, so that Chrysler may take steps to supply NHTSA’s Office of Chief Counsel with a disc that is fully functional.

B. Confidentiality Standard (49 C.F.R. § 512.8(b))

This submission is subject to the voluntary submission standard set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 512.15(d).

C. Justification for Confidential Treatment (49 C.F.R. § 512.8(c))

Information is voluntarily submitted if the agency did not invoke its authority to compel the submission of the information, even if the agency had such authority. *See Parker v. Bureau of Land Management*, 141 F. Supp. 2d 71, 78 n.6 (D.D.C 2001) (“In addition to possessing the authority to compel submission, the agency must also exercise that authority in order for a submission to be deemed mandatory.”); U.S. Dept. of Justice, Guide to the Freedom of Information Act at 279 (2009) (http://www.justice.gov/oip/foia_guide09/exemption4.pdf) (“Furthermore, the existence of agency authority to require submission of information does not automatically mean such a submission is ‘required’; the agency authority must actually be exercised in order for a particular submission to be deemed ‘required.’”). At no time did Scott Yon purport to invoke NHTSA’s authority to compel the submission of the information for which Chrysler is seeking confidential treatment.

Information submitted voluntarily should be accorded confidential treatment if it is the type of information that is not customarily disclosed by the submitter to the public. Chrysler does not ever, much less customarily, disclose to the public, the problem solving assessments and analysis and internal processes included in this submission.

D. Class Determination (49 C.F.R. § 512.8(d))

The information is not subject to a Class Determination.

E. Duration for Which Confidential Treatment is Sought (49 C.F.R. § 512.8(e))

Because the information for which confidential treatment is being sought is the kind of information that Chrysler does not anticipate ever customarily disclosing to the public, Chrysler requests that the information be accorded confidential treatment permanently.

F. Contact Information (49 C.F.R. § 512.8(f))

Please direct all inquiries and responses to the undersigned at:
800 Chrysler Drive, CIMS 482-00-91
Auburn Hills, MI 48326
248-512-0087
dd28@chrysler.com

If you receive a request for disclosure of the information for which confidential treatment is being sought before you have completed your review of our request, Chrysler respectfully requests notification of the request(s) and an opportunity to provide further justification for the confidential treatment of this information, if warranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David D. Dillon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

David D. Dillon

cc: Scott Yon

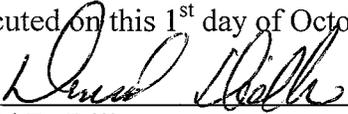
Attachment and Enclosures

Certificate in Support of Request for Confidentiality

I, David D. Dillon, pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. Part 512, state as follows:

- (1) I am Chrysler Group LLC's Senior Manager, Product Investigations & Campaigns and I am authorized by Chrysler Group LLC to execute documents on its behalf;
- (2) I certify that the information contained in the attached documents is confidential and proprietary data and is being submitted with the claim that it is entitled to confidential treatment under 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4);
- (3) I hereby request that the information contained in the indicated documents be protected on a permanent basis;
- (4) This certification is based on the information provided by the responsible Chrysler Group LLC personnel who have authority in the normal course of business to release the information for which a claim of confidentiality has been made to ascertain whether such information has ever been released outside Chrysler Group LLC;
- (5) Based upon that information, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the information for which Chrysler Group LLC has claimed confidential treatment has never been released or become available outside Chrysler Group LLC, except to certain contractors of Chrysler Group LLC with the understanding that such information must be maintained in strict confidence;
- (6) I make no representations beyond those contained in this certificate and, in particular, I make no representations as to whether this information may become available outside Chrysler Group LLC because of unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure (except as stated in paragraph 5); and
- (7) I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 1st day of October, 2012



David D. Dillon