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By Recall Management Division at 3:52 pm, Oct 30, 2013



13V-541  
(4 pages)

Ms. Nancy Lummen Lewis  
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

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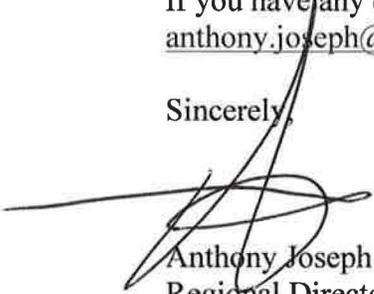
Re: Regional Recall to Address Windshield Wiper Motor Issue

Dear Ms. Lewis:

In accordance with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 and 49 CFR Part 573, McLaren Automotive, Inc. ("McLaren") is transmitting the attached Defect Information Report concerning a voluntary regional recall of certain McLaren MP4 12-C Spider and Coupe vehicles originally sold in or currently registered in the following states: Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

If you have any questions about this report, please contact me at (646) 926-5966 or at [anthony.joseph@mclaren.com](mailto:anthony.joseph@mclaren.com).

Sincerely,



Anthony Joseph  
Regional Director  
McLaren Automotive, Inc.

Enclosure

## DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT

### 1. Manufacturer:

McLaren Automotive Limited

#### Designated Agent for Service of Process:

Corporation Service Company  
2711 Centerville Road, Suite 400  
Wilmington, DE 19808

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### 2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain Model Year 2012, 2013, and 2014 McLaren MP4 12-C Spider and Coupe vehicles manufactured from October 10, 2011 through October 23, 2013 (the “subject vehicles”) that were originally sold in or are currently registered in the following states: Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. No other McLaren vehicles outside this population are affected.

The supplier of the windshield wiper motors used in the subject vehicles is:

OSLV Italia SRL  
Contrada Santa Lucia SN64026,  
Rosetto Degli Abruzzi, Teramo, Italy  
Tel.: +39 085 8090100

### 3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

A total of 1170 subject vehicles manufactured between the dates specified above were imported into the United States. 327 of those subject vehicles were originally sold in the specified states. McLaren does not currently know how many, if any, additional subject vehicles are currently registered in those states, but it will determine that number based on searches to be conducted by R.L. Polk.

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

Unknown

5. Description of the Defect:

The presence of significant amounts of copper and molybdenum disulfide ( $\text{MoS}_2$ ) in the brushes in the wipers motors on the subject vehicles can cause them to expand beyond acceptable design limits when exposed to sustained high ambient temperatures and humidity. This expansion can cause the brushes to jam inside their carriers, preventing them from making contact with the commutator, and causing the motor to stop working. Reduced visibility in inclement weather could increase the risk of a vehicle crash.

6. Chronology of Principal Events:

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December 2013: McLaren received the initial report of a failed wiper motor in a vehicle located in Miami, Florida.

January – August 2013: Additional complaints of wiper motor failures in U.S. vehicles were received. All of those reports (a total of nine) involved vehicles in the State of Florida (eight in the Miami area and one in the Tampa area).

April – October 2013: McLaren initiated an investigation in an effort to determine the cause of wiper motor failures. Among other things, McLaren investigated the possibility of faulty grease; conducted design validation tests; and reviewed the processes for assembling the wiper motor assemblies at the supplier, but these efforts did not identify a problem.

McLaren also conducted teardown tests that revealed that the brushes in the failed units had expanded beyond their design limits, which caused them to jam inside their carriers, preventing them from making contact with the commutator and causing the motor to stop working. Further microscopic analysis revealed the presence of significant amounts of copper and  $\text{MoS}_2$ , which has been found by at least two independent laboratories to cause swelling under sustained high temperature and high humidity conditions.

September – October 2013: McLaren's engineers concluded that the problem was related to the presence of copper and  $\text{MoS}_2$  in the brushes in the wiper motors, which caused them to expand beyond acceptable design limits when exposed to sustained high ambient temperatures and humidity. McLaren also conducted an analysis to determine which areas of the United States are most likely to experience the sustained high temperatures and humidity that can cause the wiper brushes to expand.

October 2013: McLaren determined that a safety related defect exists in vehicles that are likely to experience to sustained high ambient temperatures and humidity. On that basis, the company decided to conduct a regional recall covering subject vehicles sold

in or currently registered in the following states: Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

7. Description of Corrective Action:

Owners of the subject vehicles sold in or currently registered in the specified states will be notified and the windshield wiper motors in those vehicles will be replaced with an improved motor at no charge.

With respect to subject vehicles that were not sold in or currently registered in the specified states, McLaren will offer a lifetime warranty on wiper motors that fail due to this issue. Of course, that lifetime warranty would not apply to wiper motors that fail for other reasons, such as normal wear and tear.

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McLaren does not plan to include information in the Part 577 owner notification letter concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy because all of the subject vehicles are under warranty.

8. Recall Schedule

To be determined.