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14V-002
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Steve M. Kenner, Global Director
Automotive Safety Office
Sustainability, Environment & Safety Engineering

Fairlane Plaza South, Suite 400
330 Town Center Drive
Dearborn, MI 48126-2738

January 2, 2014

Ms. Nancy Lewis
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W45-306
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Subject: Ford Motor Company (Ford) 2012-2013 Model Year Ford Edge Safety Recall #13S13

In accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 573 Defect and Non-compliance Information Reports, please find the applicable information regarding Ford Motor Company's voluntary safety recall #13S13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Kenner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven M. Kenner
Attachment

49 CFR PART 573 – DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT
2012-2013 MODEL YEAR FORD EDGE 2.0L SAFETY RECALL #13S13

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Defect and Non-Compliance Reports, Ford Motor Company submits the following information concerning a safety recall action that it is voluntarily initiating.

573.6 (c) (2) – Potentially Affected Vehicles

Vehicles potentially affected are certain 2012 and 2013 model year Ford Edge vehicles equipped with 2.0L engines built at Ford's Oakville Assembly Plant (OAP) from September 2, 2010, to April 25, 2013. This includes vehicles previously recalled and repaired under Ford Approved Safety Recall 12S40 (NHTSA # 12V-438).

These vehicles are not produced in VIN order. Information as to the applicability of this action to specific vehicles can best be obtained by either calling Ford's toll-free line (1-866-436-7332) or by contacting a local Ford or Lincoln dealer who can obtain specific information regarding the vehicles from the Ford On-line Automotive Service Information System (OASIS) database.

The information for the supplier of the metal fuel line pulse damper, that is the subject of this defect report, is provided below.

Tube Assembly Fuel Vapor Bundle:
Cooper Standard Automotive FHS INC
4700 INDUSTRIAL ROW PLANT 6
Oscoda, MI 48750
(989) 739-6206
Mr. Duane Pontbriand
United States of America

573.6 (c) (3) – Estimated Population of Vehicles Potentially Affected

Approximately 27,933 model year 2012 and 2013 Ford Edge vehicles equipped with 2.0L engines in the United States and federalized territories are potentially affected.

573.6 (c) (4) – Estimated Percentage of Affected Vehicles with the Defect Condition

Unknown.

573.6 (c) (5) – Description of the Defect

Certain 2012 and 2013 model year Ford Edge vehicles equipped with 2.0L engines may experience fatigue cracking in the fuel pulse damper, resulting in a combination of fuel odor, weepage, or a small fuel leak while the fuel system is pressurized. A fuel leak in the presence of an ignition source may result in a fire.

As of November 25, 2013, Ford is aware of 24 additional warranty claims that reported fuel odor or a small fuel leak. All of the reported claims have been on vehicles with build dates beyond those included in 12S40 (NHTSA # 12V-438).

While Ford has not received any warranty reports of fuel odor or leaks related to the fuel line pulse damper on the 2012 model year Ford Edge vehicles that were previously remedied under Ford recall 12S40 (NHTSA #12V-438), Ford has decided to include these vehicles in this action.

No accidents, injuries, or fires have been reported to date as a result of the subject condition.

573.6 (c) (6) – Chronology of Events

In September 2012, Ford issued recall 12S40 (NHTSA #12V-438) to address fuel leaks originating from a crack in the fuel line pulse damper metal housing, due to damage during manufacture.

In June 2013, Engineering reported there had been nine warranty claims of fuel odor or leaks on vehicles built subsequent to FSA #12S40. Engineering reported that two of the field returned parts had been reviewed, and the fuel leak in the damper was attributed to damage caused by a non-approved burnishing procedure to remove excess brazing material. Other field returned parts displayed a crack in the corner of the damper, but did not exhibit burnishing.

Ford began to monitor field data, and to retrieve any replaced dampers. Engineering reviewed returned parts and identified fatigue cracks in the fuel line dampers, similar to those from 12S40.

October-November: Engineering analyzed and confirmed that leaking fuel pulse dampers used to remedy FSA #12S40, and subsequently in production, exhibited tight internal corner radii. A detailed review of the fuel line damper manufacturing process identified concerns that the production control process was not robust and could allow the internal corner radii of the dampers to be produced out of specification.

On December 16, 2013, Ford's Field Review Committee reviewed the concern and approved a field action.

573.6 (c) (8) – Service Program

Owners will be notified by mail and instructed to take their vehicle(s) to a Ford or Lincoln dealer to have the fuel line with the pulse damper, replaced with a fuel line which does not have a damper. There will be no charge to owners for this service.

Initial notification to dealers will occur on January 6, 2014. Mailing of owner notification letters will be completed by February 28, 2014.

In accordance with Part 573.13(d)(1), Ford is excluding reimbursement for costs incurred by owners for repair of this concern because Ford's original warranty program would provide for a free repair for this concern for customers.

573.6 (c) (10) – Press Statement and Dealer/Owner Letters

National media attention is likely as with most Ford recalls when posted to NHTSA's safecar.gov website. Ford will provide public comments when requested. A news release will not be issued.

Ford will forward a copy of the notification letters to dealers and owners to the agency when available.

573.6 (c) (11) – Recall Number

Ford has assigned recall number 13S13 to this action.

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