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By Recall Management Division at 12:05 pm, Jun 20, 2014

Toyota Motor Engineering &
Manufacturing North America, Inc.

Vehicle Safety & Compliance
Liaison Office
Mail Code: S-104
19001 South Western Avenue
Torrance, CA 90501

June 19, 2014

Mr. Frank Borris
Director
Office of Defects Investigation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Takata Front Passenger Airbag Inflators—Support for Regional Field Action

Dear Mr. Borris:

You have advised us that NHTSA's Office of Defects Investigation ("ODI") and TK Holdings, Inc. ("Takata") have been discussing certain incidents involving ruptures of inflators manufactured by Takata that were not covered by previous inflator-related recalls conducted by Toyota and other vehicle manufacturers when Takata submitted a Defect Information Report to the agency on April 11, 2013. The attached letter of June 11, 2014 from Takata to you outlines the nature of those discussions. We are also aware that the agency has recently opened an investigation (PE14-016) concerning Takata inflators.

NHTSA and Takata requested Toyota to support a plan to undertake field actions in certain geographical areas as outlined in the Takata letter. You explained that the purpose of this limited action is (1) to support the shared immediate interest in protection of owners, drivers, and passengers in certain high humidity areas that, for reasons not yet identified, have experienced ruptures in inflators not subject to any earlier safety recalls, and (2) to support the agency's investigation with an aggressive and robust parts collection, inspection and testing initiative using field parts subjected to the same long-term exposure conditions and times in service as the ruptured inflators. Toyota is pleased to provide the requested support.

As you know, on June 10, 2014, Toyota advised the agency that it was revising the remedy for recall 13V-133 and intends to replace the front passenger airbag inflators on all the vehicles identified rather than replacing only certain ones that Takata had previously advised us could be affected by the conditions outlined in the original Part 573 reports filed by Takata and Toyota. (NHTSA has assigned number 14V-312 to this revised remedy.) The limited field action now being requested will include vehicles not covered by 13V-133/14V-312. For such additional vehicles, as indicated in Takata's June 11 letter, neither NHTSA nor Takata have determined that a defect related to motor vehicle safety exists in any such additional vehicles. We have not received information from Takata leading us to believe that these vehicles contain defective inflators. To our knowledge, recalls 13V-133 and 14V-312 address any

known defects, and Toyota is not aware of any incidents involving ruptured inflators in Toyota models outside of the scope of the models covered by these recalls.

Nevertheless, in cooperation with the agency's and Takata's request, Toyota is willing to conduct a voluntary field action of certain Toyota vehicles. Toyota has not yet received information containing affected airbag module serial numbers from Takata. However, based on Takata's June 11 letter, we believe that some MY2003 to 2005 Toyota Corolla, Matrix, Sequoia, Tundra, Lexus SC, and Pontiac Vibe vehicles produced up to December 31, 2004, and not included in the previous inflator recalls, could contain front passenger inflators being targeted for replacement and collection. We will provide more detailed information on vehicles involved when it becomes available. Concerning driver's airbags, Toyota has confirmed that driver's inflators being targeted for replacement and collection were not installed in any Toyota vehicles.

When sufficient replacement parts become available, Toyota will notify all owners of these vehicles in Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to bring their vehicles into dealers for a replacement of the inflator without charge. At your request, the notice to owners will be made pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR, Part 577, although, despite any language to the contrary required by Part 577, the agency understands and agrees that no defect determination has been made by Toyota. We understand that NHTSA will assign a recall number to this limited action. Vehicle completion reports will be provided for six quarters after the notifications begin. A draft of the owner notification letter will be provided when it is available.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. Saadat".

Abbas Saadat
Vice President
Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing
North America, Inc.

Enclosure

cc: Jennifer Timian