Kia Motors America, Inc., pursuant to the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, is conducting a Safety Recall Campaign on all 2012-2016 MY Soul vehicles equipped with a 1.6L Gasoline Direct Injection (GDI) engine, manufactured from July 8, 2011 through August 11, 2016, to upgrade the Catalytic Overheating Protection (COP) logic in the Engine Control Unit (ECU). The catalytic converter, if damaged, will also be replaced. Depending on the extent of any damage, the engine may also be replaced.

Under certain conditions, the catalytic converter may become damaged due to overheating caused by an excessive increase of exhaust gas temperatures. If the catalytic converter is damaged, substrate particles can enter the engine combustion chamber and cause abnormal engine combustion. Continuous abnormal engine combustion can result in damage to one or more of the engine’s pistons which can cause piston connecting rod breakage, potentially puncturing the engine block allowing engine oil to escape and potentially contact a hot exhaust surface. These conditions can increase the risk of an engine stall or fire.

The Technical Service Bulletin that provides vehicle inspection and repair procedures, affected VIN production range, and warranty claim information will be posted on the Kia Global Information System (KGIS) at www.kiatechinfo.com during the week of April 8, 2019.

PARTS INFORMATION – As the need for Catalytic Converter replacement is expected to be very low, a valid VIN will be required for order entry.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the owner notification letter and a Q&A Guide for recall questions, both of which describe the issue. A list of Kia Soul vehicle owners affected by this recall can be accessed on WEBDCS. Log onto the site, select the Campaigns Tab, click on Open Campaign Report in the left side menu, and select SC176 to generate the list.

Notices to the affected 2012-2016 MY Soul vehicle owners will be mailed beginning on April 12, 2019. Please start performing the repairs immediately on any affected vehicles currently in your inventory.

Also, please make certain the appropriate personnel in your dealership are familiar with the details of this recall to ensure proper responses to customer inquiries and request to have the recall performed on their 2012-2016 MY Soul vehicles. This Safety Recall represents an opportunity for your service department to deliver an exceptional service experience (e.g. flexible service appointment process, car wash and vacuum and timely service).

NHTSA ADVISORY: It is a violation of Federal law for a dealer to deliver a new motor vehicle covered by this notification under a sale or lease until the defect is remedied.

LEGAL PRIVACY LIABILITY NOTICE: Pursuant to the terms of the Dealer Sales and Service Agreement and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley federal consumer privacy act, you are required to keep confidential any and all information and documents provided to you by Kia Motors America, Inc. or generated by you in the conduct of carrying out work under that Agreement regarding Kia vehicle purchasers and owners, including but not limited to warranty claim information. Kia dealers may use such owner information for the sole purpose of conducting and performing this safety recall campaign, and for no other purpose.

Your prompt attention in completing this recall is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact your Kia District Parts and Service Manager.

Sincerely,

Neem Van der Reest
Manager, Technical Services & Engineering

Enclosures