



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

October 16, 2020

Mr. David Kim  
Tesla, Inc.  
45500 Fremont Blvd  
Fremont, CA 94538

NEF-150SS  
20V-609

**Subject:** Inoperative Trailer Brake Lights/FMVSS 108

Dear Mr. Kim:

This letter serves to acknowledge Tesla, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a safety recall which will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the product(s) listed below. Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

**Makes/Models/Model Years:**

TESLA/MODEL Y/2020

**Mfr's Report Date:** September 30, 2020

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 20V-609

**Components:**

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM: INTEGRATED TRAILER BRAKE CONTROL  
EXTERIOR LIGHTING  
EXTERIOR LIGHTING: BRAKE LIGHTS

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 2,567

**Problem Description:**

Tesla, Inc. (Tesla) is recalling certain 2020 Model Y vehicles equipped with a global rear lamp and tow package configuration. A software error prevents the illumination of trailer brake lights. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard number 108, "Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment."

**Consequence:**

Trailer brake lights that fail to illuminate during braking increase the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

Tesla will notify owners, and has released the firmware update over-the-air (OTA) to vehicles as of September 23, 2020. Owners may contact Tesla customer service at 1-605-882-4000. Tesla's number for this recall is SB-20-00-002.

**Notes:**

Owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov).

Please ensure the following requirements are met:

An identification and description of the risk to motor vehicle safety reasonably related to the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(5)). All filings should state an increased risk of either a crash, injury or fire.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Your company must supply the estimated date(s) for which it will notify owners regarding this safety recall. Please be reminded that all owners must be notified of the safety risk associated with this filing within 60 days of the 573 being submitted. If the remedy is not available at that time, mail the interim notice, following it with a second notice once the remedy becomes available. If your company subsequently becomes aware that either the beginning or the completion dates reported to the agency for any of the notifications will be delayed by more than two weeks, your company shall promptly advise the agency of the delay and the reasons therefor, and furnish a revised estimate. If there are no owners involved in this recall, please state so in the 573 (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(ii)).

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on, or before, 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Sarah Shiver who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-7401, or by email at sarah.shiver@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Joshua Neff  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigations  
Enforcement