



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

March 1, 2021

Mr. Brian Polgrean  
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.  
One Industrial Complex  
Nesquehoning, PA 18240  
Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.

NEF-107MR  
21V-097

**Subject:** Mounts Insufficiently Welded to Axle

Dear Mr. Polgrean:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.'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:**

KME/PREDATOR/2017  
KME/PREDATOR PANTHER PUMPER/2014-2020  
KME/PREDATOR PUMPER/2013-2017  
KME/PREDATOR RESCUE/2014  
KME/PREDATOR SS PUMPER/2013-2020  
KME/PREDATOR SS RESCUE/2017-2018

**Mfr's Report Date:** February 19, 2021

**NHTSA Campaign Number:** 21V-097

**Components:**

SUSPENSION: MULTIPLE AXLE: TORQUE ARM

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 88

**Problem Description:**

Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp. (KME) is recalling certain 2017-2018 Predator SS Rescue, 2017 Predator Emergency Tractor, 2014-2020 Predator Panther Pumper, 2013-2017 Predator Pumper, 2014 Predator Rescue, and 2013-2020 Predator SS Pumper vehicles. The welds that attach the suspension mounts and torque rod mounts to the rear axle may have been insufficiently welded, possibly causing the welds to break.

**Consequence:**

Broken welds may cause the mounts to separate from the axle, resulting in loss of control of the vehicle, and increasing the risk of a crash.

**Remedy:**

KME will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the welds, and repair any defects found, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 5, 2021. Owners may contact KME customer service at 1-800-235-3928.

**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:**

As required in Part 573.6(c)(6), in the case of a defect, please provide a chronology of all principal events that were the basis for the determination that the defect related to motor vehicle safety, including a summary of all warranty claims, field or service reports, and other information (such as the numbers of deaths and/or injuries), with their dates of receipt.

**AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.**

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

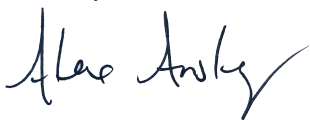
You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification 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).

Please be reminded that under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a)(3), it is illegal for a manufacturer, to sell, offer for sale, import, or introduce or deliver into interstate commerce, a motor vehicle or item of motor vehicle equipment that contains a safety defect once the manufacturer has notified NHTSA about that safety defect. This prohibition does not apply once the motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment has been remedied according to the manufacturer's instructions.

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.

Kovatch Mobile Equipment Corp.'s contact for this recall will be Michelle Rice who may be reached by email at [michelle.rice@dot.gov](mailto:michelle.rice@dot.gov). We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley  
Chief, Recall Management Division  
Office of Defects Investigation  
Enforcement