

Nissan North America, Inc.

One Nissan Way Franklin, TN 37067

Mailing Address: PO Box 685001 Franklin, TN 37068

March 17, 2021

Mr. Jeff Giuseppe Associate Administrator for Enforcement National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Attn: Recall Management Division (NVS-215) Room W48-302 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Giuseppe:

We are transmitting the enclosed Defect Information Report in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573. A voluntary recall campaign will be initiated and your office provided with the notices.

Very truly,

Derek Latta Manager,

Technical Compliance

Encl.

### **DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT**

### 1. Manufacturer:

Nissan North America, Inc., Smyrna Plant

### 2. Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Certain Model Year 2021 Nissan Rogue vehicles manufactured in the Smyrna, TN plant from September 21, 2020 to September 22, 2020.

Based on production records, this issue is unique to a small number of Model Year 2021 Nissan Rogue vehicles manufactured during the timeframe that the programming issue occurred. No other Nissan or INFINITI vehicles are affected.

The name, description and part number of the subject components are below:

<u>Part Name</u>	Part Description	Part Number(s)
NUT-ROAD WHEEL	Wheel Nut	40224-JK00A

#### 3. Total Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved:

Approximately 21 Nissan Roque vehicles may be affected.

## 4. Percentage of Vehicles Estimated to Actually Contain the Defect:

Approximately 12%

### 5. <u>Description of the Defect:</u>

Due to an equipment programming error, certain Rogue vehicles may have been manufactured with the incorrect wheel nuts. The correct wheel nuts used on the Rogue are the conical nut type. The incorrect wheel nuts that may be installed are the flat washer type. When repeatedly tightened in the field during tire or wheel changes, the incorrect wheel nuts may loosen, causing excess tire and wheel vibration. This vibration may cause the wheel studs to break, potentially resulting in tire and wheel assembly separation from the vehicle, which could increase the risk of a crash

### 6. Chronology of Principal Events:

On December 26, 2020, during a dealer pre-delivery inspection, a technician noticed that the right front and right rear wheels of an MY21 Nissan Rogue had the incorrect wheel nuts installed. Nissan began to investigate the issue.

January 2021 through February 2021 – At the Smyrna production plant, the Nissan Rogue is built on the same production line as the Nissan Maxima. The tire and wheel station where the wheel nuts are installed has a turntable that rotates to present the correct wheel nuts to the operator based on the model that enters the workstation.

The investigation revealed that at the start of production, the turntable was not programmed to identify MY21 Rogue units. As a result, the turntable would rotate and present the correct wheel nuts for Maxima vehicles, but would not rotate when a Rogue entered the workstation. In some instances, this would leave the Maxima wheel nuts present for the technician to use and apply to the vehicle.

Nissan conducted a yard audit at the Smyrna plant of 511 units and found one (1) that contained incorrect wheel nuts. In addition, Nissan launched a quality hold and Dealer Action to inspect certain Rogue units in inventory. Four (4) additional units were found with the subject condition.

March 10, 2021 - Out of an abundance of caution, Nissan made a decision to recall all potentially affected vehicles to inspect, and if necessary, remedy the issue.

Nissan is aware of one (1) warranty claim attributed to this condition (mentioned above). No other claims have been reported.

### 7. Description of Corrective Action:

Dealers will be notified beginning March 18, 2021. Owners of all potentially affected vehicles will be notified beginning on May 7, 2021, to bring their vehicle to the dealer for repair. Dealers will inspect all twenty wheel nuts on all four (4) wheels. If an incorrect wheel nut is found on either the left and/or right side of the vehicle, dealers will replace all wheel nuts on the affected side of the vehicle.

Nissan will not include a statement in the Part 577 owner notification concerning reimbursement for the cost of obtaining a pre-notification remedy for the subject vehicles because they are still under warranty.

# 8. Copy of Notices:

Copies of all notices will be provided to NHTSA as they become available.