

# Part 573 Safety Recall Report

## 21V-259

**Manufacturer Name :** Kia Motors America**Submission Date :** APR 13, 2021**NHTSA Recall No. :** 21V-259**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SC209**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Kia Motors America

Address : 111 Peters Canyon Road  
Irvine CA 92606

Company phone : 800-333-4542

**Population :**

Number of potentially involved : 147,249

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

**Vehicle Information :**

Vehicle 1 : 2020-2021 Kia Soul

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Certain 2020-2021 model year Kia Soul vehicles (125,400 units) manufactured from November 24, 2018 through October 24, 2020 and certain 2021 model year Kia Seltos vehicles (21,849 units) manufactured from November 20, 2019 through October 15, 2020 equipped with 2.0L Nu MPI engines produced at the Kia Hwasung plant.

The recall population was determined by a review of supplier and Kia vehicle production records. The vehicles subject to this recall were not produced in VIN order. Customers seeking information about their specific vehicle will be referred to Kia's Consumer Assistance Center or their Kia dealer.

Production Dates : NOV 24, 2018 - OCT 24, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential

Vehicle 2 : 2021-2021 Kia Seltos

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : GAS

**Descriptive Information :** Certain 2020-2021 model year Kia Soul vehicles (125,400 units) manufactured from November 24, 2018 through October 24, 2020 and certain 2021 model year Kia Seltos vehicles (21,849 units) manufactured from November 20, 2019 through October 15, 2020 equipped with 2.0L Nu MPI engines produced at the Kia Hwasung plant.

The recall population was determined by a review of supplier and Kia vehicle production records. The vehicles subject to this recall were not produced in VIN order. Customers seeking information about their specific vehicle will be referred to Kia's Consumer Assistance Center or their Kia dealer.

Production Dates : NOV 20, 2019 - OCT 15, 2020

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

Not sequential

## Description of Defect :

**Description of the Defect :** During production at the piston oil ring supplier, inconsistent heat-treating process occurred resulting in excessive oil ring hardness. Excessive oil ring hardness can lead to chipping of the piston oil ring's outer periphery and scuffing of the cylinder bore. A scuffed cylinder bore can lead to increased oil consumption which will eventually result in abnormal noise from the engine and/or illumination of the oil pressure warning light. If the vehicle is continually operated in this condition, connecting rod bearing seizure can occur. A seized connecting rod bearing can result in engine damage, thereby increasing the risk of loss of motive power and/or in limited cases a fire, due to a connecting rod puncturing the engine block allowing engine oil to leak onto a hot exhaust.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

**Description of the Safety Risk :** Loss of motive power increases the risk of crash; Fire increases the risk of injury.

**Description of the Cause :** Inconsistent heat-treating process for piston oil ring

**Identification of Any Warning that can Occur :** Increased oil consumption, abnormal engine noise, and illumination of the oil pressure warning lamp

## Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : Piston Assembly

Component Description : Piston Assembly

Component Part Number : 23041-2E801 (Soul)

Component Name 2 : Piston Assembly

Component Description : Piston Assembly

Component Part Number : 23041-2E801 (Seltos)

## Supplier Identification :

### Component Manufacturer

Name : Dongsuh Federal-Mogul

Address : 74 Moknae-ro, Danwon-gu  
Ansan-si, Gyeonggi-do Foreign States

Country : Korea, Republic of

## Chronology :

See attached document titled "2020-2021MY Soul and 2021MY Seltos Piston Oil Ring Chronology"

## Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : All owners of the subject vehicles will be notified by first class mail with instructions to bring their vehicles to a Kia dealer to have their engine inspected and if necessary, the engine will be replaced. When available and as a preventative measure, dealers will also be instructed to install a Piston-ring Noise Sensing System (PNSS) software to alert the driver of potential damage to the piston oil ring. Kia will reimburse owners for repair expenses already incurred pursuant to Kia's General Reimbursement Plan filed May 11, 2020.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : The remedy component has a properly treated oil ring.

**Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production :** The heat-treating process was corrected at the supplier and incorporated into engines produced as of 6/30/2020. This corresponds to the 2021 Soul vehicles produced beginning on October 25, 2020 and 2021 Seltos vehicles produced beginning on October 16, 2021.

**Recall Schedule :**

**Description of Recall Schedule :** Planned Dealer Notification will be June 4, 2021 and Planned Owner Notification will be June 11, 2021.  
**Planned Dealer Notification Date :** JUN 04, 2021 - JUN 04, 2021  
**Planned Owner Notification Date :** JUN 11, 2021 - JUN 11, 2021

\* NR - Not Reported