2013-2015MY Optima & 2014-2015MY Sorento HECU Chronology Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)

October 15-23, 2020	Kia Motors America, Inc. (KMA) notifies customers via first class mail to bring their 2013-2015MY Optima and 2014-2015MY Sorento to a Kia dealer to have the Hydraulic Electronic Control Unit (HECU) in their vehicle inspected for leaking brake fluid and, if necessary, replaced with a new one as part of safety recall 20V519.
November 2020-March 2021	Following notification to customers of safety recall 20V519, Kia Motors Corporation (KMC) begins to consider alternative solutions to enhance the HECU's protection against significant overcurrent and subsequent shorting that could result in a fire. KMC develops new HECU multi-fuse with a lower amperage rating and conducts duplication testing to confirm effectiveness in mitigating the potential for fire due to an electrical short circuit.
April 29, 2021	KMC provides Kia Motors North America (KMNA) the results of its testing and evaluation.
May 4, 2021	KMNA decides to conduct a new recall involving the vehicles identified in safety recall 20V519 to notify owners of the enhanced remedy, including owners that previously had the 20V519 recall repair completed. Six (6) Optima and two (2) Sorento alleged fire related customer complaints (i.e., isolated melting) and no fatalities, injuries or crashes were previously reported at the time original recall (20V519) was filed. One (1) dealer report of isolated melting in an Optima vehicle following completion of the 20V-519 recall remedy. No fatalities, injuries or crashes in the subject vehicles.