

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

July 9, 2021

Mr. Chris Sandvig Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. 3800 Hamlin Road Auburn Hills, MI 48326 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

NEF-107SS 21V-492

**Subject:** Air Bags Can Improperly Deploy

Dear Mr. Sandvig:

This letter serves to acknowledge Volkswagen Group of America, 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:

VOLKSWAGEN/JETTA/2020-2021

Mfr's Report Date: June 30, 2021

NHTSA Campaign Number: 21V-492

#### **Components:**

AIR BAGS: AIR BAG/RESTRAINT CONTROL MODULE

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 379

# **Problem Description:**

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (Volkswagen) is recalling certain 2020-2021 Jetta and Jetta GLI vehicles. The air bag control module was welded in the incorrect position.

#### **Consequence:**

Incorrect positioning of the air bag control module can cause the vehicle's air bags to deploy improperly during a crash, increasing the risk of injury. Additionally, the vehicle's air bags can deploy unintentionally, increasing the risk of a crash.

## Remedy:

Dealers will replace the air bag control module, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed August 27, 2021. Owners may contact Volkswagen customer service at 1-800-893-5298. Volkswagen's number for this recall is 69CK.

#### **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.nhtsa.gov.

We note that your report states that Volkswagen believes that this matter does not have a safety risk. In our view, this statement has no force or effect in terms of Volkswagen's obligation to undertake and complete the recall, and NHTSA does not agree with it.



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.

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be Sarah Shiver who may be reached by email at sarah.shiver@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Alex Ansley

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigation

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Enforcement

