2017-2019MY Sedona, Soul, Soul EV, 2017-2018MY Forte and 2017 Forte Koup ACU Cover Contact Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)

July 27, 2021	Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) receives report from Service Team in the Korean market regarding illumination of the Airbag Warning Light (ABWL) in a 2019MY Sedona due to diagnostic trouble code (DTC) B1620 (Airbag Control Unit (ACU) internal fault). Kia HQ collects ACU from subject 2019MY Sedona for further investigation. Kia HQ unable to duplicate DTC B1620. Kia HQ continues to monitor.
September 8, 2021	Kia HQ receives second report from Service Team in the Korean market regarding illumination of the ABWL in a 2019MY Sedona due to DTC B1620. Kia HQ collects the ACU from the subject 2019MY Sedona for further investigation. Kia HQ confirms existence of DTC B1620. Kia HQ decides to collect warranty-returned parts for further evaluation.
October 26, 2021 – January 11, 2022	Kia HQ receives an additional warranty returned ACU with B1620 from the Korean market for inspection and confirms soldering issue at joints between the EEPROM and Printed Circuit Board. Kia HQ conducts analysis of ACU production records with supplier and related warranty claims for potentially affected vehicles. Kia HQ determines the ACU internal fault (DTC B1620) is caused by contact between the ACU cover and the EEPROM on the Printed Circuit Board (PCB) resulting in illumination of the airbag warning light.
January 12-14, 2022	Kia HQ notifies Kia North America (Kia NA) Safety Office of its investigation results and identifies certain 2017-2019MY Sedona, Soul, Soul EV, 2017-2018MY Forte and 2017MY Forte Koup may be affected by this issue. Kia NA Safety Office conducts analysis of ACU warranty replacement claims due to DTC B1620 for the affected U.S. models and model years and identifies a total of 947 potentially related warranty claims [0.23%]. A breakdown of claims by model includes: 2017-2019 Sedona [93 claims (0.14%), received from 9/24/17—1/13/22]; 2017-2019 Soul [830 claims (0.34%) received 4/21/17—1/13/22], 2017-2019MY Soul EV [0 claims (0.00%)] 2017-2018MY Forte [24 claims (0.01%) received from 8/15/17—1/13/22] and 2017MY Forte Koup [0 claims; 0.00%].

January 18, 2022	Kia NA decides to conduct a safety recall. 13 customer complaints;
	81 techline cases; 947 warranty claims. No fatalities, injuries, crashes or fires.