2022MY Sorento Hybrid & Plug-in Hybrid Seatbelt Pretensioner Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)

February 16, 2022	Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) notifies Kia North America (Kia NA) Safety Office of an abnormal seatbelt pretensioner deployment incident following a crash in Singapore involving a 2021MY Hyundai Avante (U.S. model name Elantra) vehicle. Kia HQ also informs Kia NA Safety Office that the seatbelt pretensioner equipped in the 2021MY Hyundai Avante is the same component used in the 2022MY Sorento Hybrid and Plug-in Hybrid vehicles.
February 17-23, 2022	Kia HQ works with Hyundai and supplier and confirms potential scope of 2022MY Sorento Hybrid and Plug-in Hybrid vehicles based on Hyundai vehicle and supplier production lot records. Kia HQ informs Kia NA Safety Office of the 2022MY Sorento Hybrid and Plug-in Hybrid VINs equipped with the same seatbelt pretensioner production lot used for Hyundai Avante. Kia HQ review global field data and confirms no similar incidents in Kia vehicles. Kia HQ also informs Kia NA Safety Office that Hyundai Motor America (HMA) is planning on holding a field action decision committee meeting on February 24, 2022 due to the abnormal seatbelt pretensioner deployment issue in its vehicles.
February 24, 2022	Kia NA Safety Office conducts field data review and confirms no similar incidents in the U.S. involving the 2022MY Sorento Hybrid and Plug-in Hybrid vehicles.
February 25, 2022	Although there have been no abnormal pretensioner deployment incidents involving the 2022MY Kia Sorento Hybrid & Plug-in Hybrid vehicles, Kia is conducting this recall as a precautionary measure in light of the abnormal seatbelt pretensioner deployment incident in Singapore involving a Hyundai vehicle. Kia NA will collect replaced seatbelt pretensioners under the recall for further evaluation of whether an issue exists and, if so, determination of root cause. No fatalities, injuries, crashes or fires.