

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

August 18, 2023

Mrs. Julia Winter Nikola Corporation 4141 E. Broadway Dr. Phoenix, AZ 85040 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

> NEF-107SS 23V-580

Subject: Coolant Leak Inside Battery Pack May Cause Fire

Dear Mrs. Winter:

This letter serves to acknowledge Nikola Corporation'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:

NIKOLA/TRE BEV/2022-2023

Mfr's Report Date: August 15, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V-580

Components:

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM:PROPULSION SYSTEM:TRACTION BATTERY:THERMAL MANAGEMENT:FLUID/COOLANT

Potential Number of Units Affected: 209

Problem Description:

Nikola Corporation (Nikola) is recalling certain 2022-2023 Tre BEV vehicles. Coolant may leak inside the battery pack.

Consequence:

Leaking coolant can accumulate inside the battery pack, causing an electrical short and increasing the risk of fire.

Remedy:

Owners are advised to park outside and away from structures. The Main Battery Disconnect (MBD) switch should be left in the "ON" position at all times until the vehicle is repaired. The remedy is currently being developed. Interim notification letters, informing owners of the safety risk, are expected to be mailed by October 14, 2023. A second notice will be sent once the remedy becomes available. Owners may contact Nikola customer service at 1-630-808-4531. Nikola's number for this recall is 23VDC-0601.

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.



Please ensure the following requirements are met:

Per the requirements of 49 USC 30119, please provide the part number, name and description of the component or components involved in this recall. This information should be provided in an amended 573 in the "Involved Components" section.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

Per the requirements of 573.6(c)(2)(iv), please provide the supplier name, contact information, address and country of origin (if known) for the affected component(s). If your company manufactured the component itself, then please state so in 573.

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

A description of the manufacturer's program for remedying the defect or noncompliance (49 CFR 573.6 (c)(8)(i)).

AMENDED 573 REQUIRED.

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 49 U.S.C. § 30118(f), submission of eight consecutive quarterly reports followed by three annual reports is required. As described in 573.7, submission of the first of eight 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. The first of three consecutive annual status reports will be due on, or before, 1 year after the eighth quarterly report was submitted.

Nikola Corporation'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

Enforcement

