



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 25, 2023

Mr. J.S. (Jurassic) Park
VP/ Chief Safety Officer
Kia America, Inc.
111 Peters Canyon Road
Irvine, CA 92606-1790

NEF-107ES
23V-649

Subject: Front Lower Control Arm May Fail

Dear Mr. Park:

This letter serves to acknowledge Kia 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:

KIA/FORTE/2023

Mfr's Report Date: September 22, 2023

NHTSA Campaign Number: 23V-649

Components:

SUSPENSION:FRONT:CONTROL ARM:LOWER ARM

Potential Number of Units Affected: 3,866

Problem Description:

Kia America, Inc. (Kia) is recalling certain 2023 Forte vehicles. The right front lower control arm may have been improperly welded, which can cause it to fail.

Consequence:

Front lower control arm failure can cause a sudden loss of steering control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy:

Owners are advised not to drive their vehicles until the repair has been performed. Dealers will replace the right front lower control arm, free of charge. Owner notification letters are expected to be mailed September 27, 2023. Owners may contact Kia customer service at 1-800-333-4542. Kia's number for this recall is SC283.

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 have received Kia's proposed owner notification letter and approved it for distribution.



Please be reminded of the following requirements:

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.

Kia America, Inc.'s contact for this recall will be Emily C. Smith who may be reached by email at emily.c.smith@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Alex Ansley
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement