Multiple Kia Models Hydraulic Electronic Control Unit Basis of Safety Defect Determination 573.6(c)(6)

July 11, 2023	Kia Corporation (Kia HQ) notifies Kia North America (Kia NA) Safety Office that Hyundai is investigating potential fire concern in certain Hyundai models equipped with a certain type of Hydraulic Electronic Control Unit (HECU). Kia HQ identifies Kia models potentially equipped with same HECU as in the Hyundai models.
July 12, 2023—August 10, 2023	Kia NA Safety Office works with Kia HQ to confirm U.S. Kia models equipped with the same HECU's in order to conduct further analysis to evaluate existence of any potential issue. Kia NA Safety Office conducts review of its field data and identifies ten (10) incidents confirmed by photos/vehicle inspection: 1 engine compartment fire (2013MY Optima), 3 localized fires (2013MY Soul (1) and 2013MY Optima (2)) and 6 localized melting (2011MY Soul (1), 2011MY Sportage (1), 2012MY Soul (1), 2013MY Soul (2), and 2014MY Sorento (1) [dates of receipt 8/27/2014—7/18/2023].
August 11, 2023	Kia NA Safety Office shares field data analysis results with Kia HQ and informs of its efforts to collect incident parts for further evaluation. Kia NA Safety Office requests Kia HQ provide its investigation results for the 2012MY and 2013MY Soul incident HECU parts.
August 29, 2023	Kia HQ provides Kia NA Safety Office its investigation results of 2012MY Soul HECU and identifies internal HECU brake fluid leakage and localized melting in the upper area of the printed circuit board (PCB). Cause of leakage unknown. Kia NA Safety Office ships collected 2013MY Optima incident part to Kia HQ for further investigation.
September 1, 2023	Kia HQ informs Kia NA Safety Office of 2013MY Soul investigation results and identifies brake fluid leakage and melting in the lower area of the printed circuit board (PCB). Cause of leakage unknown. Investigation continues.
September 17, 2023	Kia HQ provides Kia NA Safety Office with information related to recall decision made by Hyundai on September 15, 2023.
September 18, 2023	Kia NA Safety Office updates field data analysis and identifies 13 unconfirmed, but potentially related incidents (Cadenza (1); Forte (6): Optima (3): Soul (1): Sorento (2) [dates of receipt

	11/3/2010—12/22/2022]). No incidents identified for any of the other models equipped with the same HECU as used in the Hyundai models.
September 18, 2023	Although investigation not complete, Kia NA decides to recall all Kia models equipped with the same HECU with Electronic Stability Control as in the Hyundai models regardless of whether an incident occurred or not. No fatalities, injuries or crashes.