

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

November 14, 2012

Mr. Vinnie Venugopal Toyota Motor North America, Inc. General Manager, Quality Control 19001 South Western Avenue, Mail: S104 Torrance, CA 20005

12V-536

NVS-215KS

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

**Subject:** Water Pump may Fail Causing a Vehicle Stall

Dear Mr. Venugopal:

This letter serves to acknowledge Toyota Motor North 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:

TOYOTA/FCHV-ADV/2009-2011 TOYOTA/PRIUS/2004-2009

**Mfr's Report Date:** November 14, 2012

NHTSA Campaign Number: 12V-536

#### **Components:**

ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING
HYBRID PROPULSION SYSTEM: INVERTER

**Potential Number of Units Affected:** 350,662

### **Problem Description:**

Toyota is recalling certain model year 2004-2009 Prius vehicles manufactured August 6, 2003, through March 30, 2009 and FCHV-adv vehicles manufactured December 12, 2008, through September 13, 2011. During manufacturing, a scratch may have occurred inside of the electrically driven water pump at the coil wire. The coil wire may corrode at the scratched portion.

## **Consequence:**

The corroded coil wire may break and the water pump could stop. The corroded coil wire could cause a short circuit between coil wires and a possible open fuse, creating a stall-like condition of the hybrid system while the vehicle is being driven.

## Remedy:

Toyota will notify its owners, and dealers will replace the electric water pump, free of charge. The manufacturer has not yet provided a notification schedule. Owners may contact their Toyota dealer or the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-800-331-4331.

## **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.safercar.gov.



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).

You are required to provide an estimated date including month, day, and year, when you will send notifications to owners, dealers, and distributors as soon as it becomes available. Please be reminded that it is expected owners will be notified of a safety defect in their vehicles within 60 days of a manufacturer's notification to NHTSA of a safety defect in those vehicles. 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.

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six 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.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler who may be reached by phone at (202) 366-5227, or by email at kelly.schuler@dot.gov or through the office email at rmd.odi@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Timian

Chief, Recall Management Division Office of Defects Investigations

Enforcement

