



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

ODI RESUME

OFFICE OF DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



Investigation: RQ23005
Prompted By: VOQs and Early Warning Reporting
Date Opened: 09/10/2023
Investigator: Joseph Teitelman **Reviewer:** Peter Kivett
Approver: Tanya Topka
Subject: Vehicle Rollaway

MANUFACTURER & PRODUCT INFORMATION

Manufacturer: Kia America, Inc.
Products: 2015-2019 Kia Soul EV
Population: 6,267 (Estimated)

Problem Description: Unintended vehicle movement can occur when the vehicle is shifted to Park and the parking brake is not engaged.

FAILURE REPORT SUMMARY

	ODI	Manufacturer	EWR D&I	Other	Total	EWR Field Reports
All Incidents:	3	0	0	0	2	CONF
Crashes/Fires:	1	0	0	0	1	0
Injury Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Injuries:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fatality Incidents:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Fatalities:	0	0	0	0	0	0

Description of Other:

ACTION/SUMMARY INFORMATION

Action: A Recall Query has been opened.

Summary:

In July 2020, Kia issued safety recall 20V-389 addressing a defect in the parking mechanism on model year (MY) 2015-2016 Kia Soul EV vehicles. In the recalled vehicles, if the driver moves the gear shift lever into Park before coming to a complete stop, the parking mechanism can be damaged. When the parking mechanism is damaged, unintended vehicle movement can occur when the vehicle is shifted to Park and the parking brake is not engaged. The recall remedy consists of a software update for the Electronic Parking Brake (EPB) that automatically engages EPB if the vehicle is turned off with the gear shift lever located in Park. The updated EPB logic was incorporated into production at the beginning of MY 2017.

The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) has received three Vehicle Owner Questionnaires (VOQs) alleging unintended vehicle movement while in Park for MY 2017-2018 Kia Soul EV (two of the complaints represent the same VIN and are from the same consumer). One of the VOQs includes a reported rollaway collision which occurred after the operator had parked and exited the vehicle. From Early Warning Reporting data submitted by Kia, ODI identified a failure similar to those described by consumers which was diagnosed to a damaged parking mechanism. Through preliminary communications with Kia, ODI has confirmed that MY 2017-2019 Kia Soul EV vehicles are equipped with the same parking mechanism as the prior model years which were subject to recall. ODI is opening this

Recall Query (RQ) on MY 2015-2019 Kia Soul EV vehicles to evaluate the frequency, scope, and causes of the alleged rollaway incidents, and to assess the effectiveness of the remedy of recall 20V-389.

To review the reports cited in the attached Opening Resume ODI Report Identification Number document, go to [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov).

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

20V-389

Manufacturer Name : Kia Motors America**Submission Date :** JUL 02, 2020**NHTSA Recall No. :** 20V-389**Manufacturer Recall No. :** SC191**Manufacturer Information :**

Manufacturer Name : Kia Motors America

Address : 111 Peters Canyon Road
Irvine CA 92606

Company phone : 800-333-4542

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 3,714

Estimated percentage with defect : 1 %

Vehicle Information :

Vehicle 1 : 2015-2016 Kia Soul

Vehicle Type : LIGHT VEHICLES

Body Style : ALL

Power Train : HYBRID ELECTRIC

Descriptive Information : 2015-2016 model year Kia Soul Electric Vehicle (EV) vehicles manufactured from July 15, 2014 through June 24, 2016.

The recall population was determined by a review of vehicle production records. The vehicles subject to this recall were not produced in VIN order. Customers seeking information about their specific vehicle will be referred to Kia's Consumer Assistance Center or their Kia dealer.

Production Dates : JUL 15, 2014 - JUN 24, 2016

VIN Range 1 : Begin :

NR

End : NR

 Not sequential**Description of Defect :**

Description of the Defect : If the driver moves the gear shift lever into "P" (Park) prior to coming to a complete stop, the vehicle's parking mechanism can be damaged. If the parking mechanism is damaged, even though the gear shift lever is in the "P" (Park) position, unintended vehicle movement may occur when the vehicle is left unattended and the parking brake is not used.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Unintended vehicle movement can increase the risk of a crash
Description of the Cause : Damage to the vehicle's parking mechanism due to the gear shift lever being moved into "P" (Park) prior to coming to a complete stop.

Identification of Any Warning N/A
that can Occur :

Involved Components :

Component Name 1 : N/A
Component Description : N/A
Component Part Number : N/A

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : HYUNDAI WIA
Address : 153, Jeongdong-ro, Seongsan-gu
Changwon, Gyeongsangnam-do FOREIGN STATES 51556
Country : Korea, Republic of

Chronology :

See attached document titled "2015-2016 Soul EV Gear Shift Lever Chronology"

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Kia will instruct dealers to update the Electronic Control Unit software for the Electronic Parking Brake logic so that the electronic parking brake automatically activates if the POWER button is turned OFF when the gear shift lever is in the "P" (Park) position. Kia will reimburse owners for repair expenses already incurred pursuant to Kia's General Reimbursement Plan filed May 11, 2020.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : N/A

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : The Electronic Parking Brake (EPB) feature was incorporated into production beginning with the 2017 MY Soul EV on July 11, 2016. No Soul EV's were produced between June 24, 2016 (end of production for 2016 MY Soul EV) and July 11, 2016 (start of production for 2017 MY Soul EV).

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : Dealer Notification is planned for July 30, 2020, and the Owner Notification is planned for August 7, 2020.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : JUL 30, 2020 - JUL 30, 2020

Planned Owner Notification Date : AUG 07, 2020 - AUG 07, 2020

* NR - Not Reported