

## ENGINE CONTROL UNIT FOR 2012-2016 MODEL YEAR SOUL VOLUNTARY SAFETY RECALL SC176

Date: Feb. 27, 2019

Model(s): 2012-2016 Kia Soul

Number of Vehicles Potentially Involved: 378,697

Component(s): Engine Control Unit

**Summary:** Kia Motors America (KMA) is voluntarily recalling all Soul vehicles manufactured from July 8, 2011 to August 11, 2016 equipped with 1.6L Gasoline Direct Injection (GDI) engines. The catalytic converter in the recalled vehicles may be susceptible to damage due to overheating caused by an excessive increase of exhaust gas temperatures. If the catalytic converter is damaged, substrate particles can enter the engine combustion chamber and cause abnormal engine combustion. Continuous abnormal engine combustion can result in damage to one or more of the engine's pistons, which can cause piston rod breakage, potentially puncturing the engine block and allow engine oil to escape. Engine oil that contacts a hot surface may result in a fire. A fire increases the risk of injury. KMA is not aware of any reported accidents or injuries as a result of this issue.

**KMA Action:** All owners of the subject vehicles will be notified via first-class mail with instructions to bring their vehicle to the nearest Kia dealership. Dealers will be instructed to upgrade the Catalytic Overheating Protection Engine Control Unit logic to prevent overheating of the catalytic converter. The catalytic converter will be inspected and replaced if it is damaged. Depending on the extent of any damage, the engine may also be replaced. Kia will reimburse owners for repair expenses already incurred pursuant to Kia's General Reimbursement Plan filed April 10, 2018. Customers with questions may contact KMA consumer assistance at 1-800-333-4542 or their Kia dealer.