14V-003

(3 Pages)

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January 17, 2014

VIA E-MAIL (RMD.ODI@dot.gov) AND CERTIFIED U.S. MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Associate Administrator for Enforcement National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215) 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Re:

Safety Recalls EQ 13-006, 13E-039, 13E-067 EverGreen Recreational Vehicles, LLC

Defect and Noncompliance Information Report

Dear Associate Administrator:

Our firm is general counsel for EverGreen Recreational Vehicles, LLC ("EverGreen"), 10758 County Road 2, Middlebury, Indiana 46540. This initial report is in response to the notification from your office dated December 17, 2013, concerning the safety recall campaigns filed by Fastec Industrial Corporation ("Fastec") and Lippert Components, Inc. ("Lippert") relating to the potential safety problem involving defective door locks manufactured by Fastec that were used in certain doors manufactured by Lippert (Investigation No. EQ 13-006, Recall No. 13E-039, Recall No. 13E-067). EverGreen has determined that it purchased 793 of these doors from Lippert containing the defective door locks.

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, EverGreen is hereby notifying the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that certain travel trailers manufactured by EverGreen contain the Lippert doors containing the defective door locks manufactured by Fastec, which constitutes a defect related to motor vehicle safety.

A. Recall Population and Vehicle Identification. The door locks that are subject to this recall campaign are identified by Fastec in Recall Campaign No. 13E-039. The Lippert doors containing the defective door locks that are subject to this recall campaign are identified by Lippert in Recall Campaign No. 13E-067. EverGreen has confirmed that Lippert sold 793 of these doors containing the defective door locks to EverGreen. These doors were installed on 585 travel trailers manufactured by EverGreen. The number of travel trailers containing the doors with the defective door locks is less than the total

number of doors purchased from Lippert since some of these travel trailers are equipped with two of these doors. Of these 585 travel trailers, 186 of the travel trailers were exported to other countries. As a result, 399 travel trailers that contain Lippert doors with the defective door locks manufactured by Fastec are currently in the possession of EverGreen's dealers and retail owners throughout the United States and are subject to this recall campaign.

The Lippert doors containing the defective door locks have been installed by EverGreen on certain 2013 Ever-Lite, i-Go, Ever-Lite Select and Ascend travel trailers that were manufactured by EverGreen during the period from February 17, 2012, through October 30, 2012.

- B. <u>Description of Defect</u>. All of the above-referenced travel trailers that will be identified as part of this recall campaign contain the doors with the defective door locks identified by Lippert in Recall Campaign No. 13E-067.
- C. <u>Basis for Determining that a Defect Exists</u>. EverGreen received notification from NHTSA that certain doors sold by Lippert to EverGreen may contain a safety-related defect. Upon receipt of this notice from NHTSA, EverGreen determined that various 2013 Ever-Lite, i-Go, Ever-Lite Select and Ascend travel trailers manufactured by EverGreen contain the doors with the defective door locks that are subject to Recall Campaign No. 13E-067. EverGreen has subsequently identified each of the 399 travel trailers sold in the United States that contain the Lippert doors with the defective door locks.
- D. Remedying of Defect. The program to be implemented by EverGreen to remedy the defect will include notification to all EverGreen dealers that may have any 2013 Ever-Lite, i-Go, Ever-Lite Select and Ascend travel trailers subject to this recall campaign in their inventory and notification to all registered owners of the travel trailers subject to this recall campaign. The remedy will consist of Fastec providing replacement lock cylinders to such dealers and registered owners with instructions for removing and replacing the defective lock cylinders, which shall be done at no charge to the dealer or the registered owner. EverGreen is currently working on the procedures to be utilized in order to provide for the replacement of the defective door locks. EverGreen will provide NHTSA with additional details regarding these procedures in a follow-up report.
- E. <u>Dealer and Owner Notifications</u>. Notification letters shall be provided to EverGreen's dealers and to the registered owners of the 2013 Ever-Lite, i-Go, Ever-Lite Select and Ascend travel trailers that are subject to this recall campaign. At this time, EverGreen is preparing the necessary dealer notifications and owner notifications. EverGreen will provide NHTSA with a representative copy of all such notices in the follow-up report.

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F. <u>Campaign Number</u>. EverGreen does not have an internal campaign number for this recall. EverGreen will use the recall campaign number assigned by NHTSA.

If you need any additional information regarding this recall campaign, please feel free to contact me. Otherwise, EverGreen will file a follow-up report with NHTSA containing the information necessary to complete this Defect and Noncompliance Information Report.

Very truly yours,

Daniel A. Bensman

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cc: Evergreen Recreational Vehicles, LLC

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