

3 December 2018

Henrik Moller  
[henrik.moller@otago.ac.nz](mailto:henrik.moller@otago.ac.nz)

REF: NZT-3378

Dear Henrik

Thank you for your email of 22 October 2018 regarding a reported fault in some 2013-2016 Nissan Leaf vehicles which results in brake system failures. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

I appreciate the time you have taken to write detailing your concerns. As the regulator for land transport, the NZ Transport Agency takes its responsibilities of vehicle and road safety seriously.

The Transport Agency is aware of concerns about these vehicles and has conducted its own trial of the Nissan Leaf brake system to establish whether loss of power to the system causes a failure of the brakes. The results of the trial have shown that the vehicle operates as specified by the manufacturer when the regenerative braking system ceases to function. These results are included with this letter as Attachment 1.

To meet the Warrant of Fitness requirement, a combined efficiency of 50% is required. The test results have showed that the braking performance of the vehicle achieved a combined efficiency of 80%.

As you are aware, we made urgent inquiries with Nissan NZ directly at the time that your concerns were raised with us. I understand that Nissan NZ has responded to you explaining their position in respect of the Voluntary Service and Recall Campaigns in the United States and the United Kingdom, specifically for vehicles for the Canadian and European markets where vehicles are consistently in cold climates of minus 20 degrees Celsius.

The responsibility for investigating individual vehicle faults sits with vehicle dealerships and automotive workshops. We strongly encourage owners of any vehicle with suspected technical faults, such as brake failure, to take their vehicle to their nearest vehicle dealer for testing as soon as possible.

If you would like to discuss this matter further with the Transport Agency, you are welcome to contact Davey Uprichard, Principal Engineer – Vehicle Standards, on (04) 894 5037 or by email to [Davey.Uprichard@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:Davey.Uprichard@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brett Aldridge', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Brett Aldridge**  
Senior Manager Regulatory Compliance