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1149 Tyler Court
Independence, KY 41051
August 18, 1998

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION
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Docket Management Room PL 401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

NHTSA-98-4124-44

RE: ^{NHTSA} Docket No. 98-4124, notice 1

Current United States intensity standards for the Daytime Running Lights (DRL) are too high. While the lights are designed for safety, the glare that they produce proves to be a detriment in many instances; many time because they are improperly aligned/aimed.

However, the greater problem, is that while the front headlights are automatically illuminated upon starting a vehicle, the taillights stay in the "off position. Too many people are utilizing the **DRL's** as their **ONLY** source of illumination - not turning on their headlights when headlights and taillights are necessary, i.e. during nighttime hours. When driving behind a car without proper "lights on" causes more accidents due to coming upon an improperly illuminated vehicle, hitting the brakes in a hurry to avoid a rear end collision. This can then cause a domino effect - while the "object vehicle" goes on without knowledge of the problem behind.

Yours truly,


James T. Dougherty