

Dear sirs,

On behalf of the Roadfly U.S. Lotus Elise online community, I would like to urge that the Group Lotus Plc application for a temporary exemption from Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 108 and Part 581 Bumper Standard (docket no. NHTSA-03-16341, Notice 1) be granted.

Automotive enthusiasts in the United States for years have been asking for the Elise to be brought to the U.S. market. Some individuals have tried to import them through dubious means, which Lotus has tried to discourage. The Elise that Lotus has prepared to bring to the U.S. market complies with all other Federal Motor Vehicle Safety standards other than what is mentioned in the application for temporary exemption.

If granted this exception, Group Lotus Plc. will be able to maintain a presence in the United States, both with the new U.S. Elise and to maintain and service the Esprits bought by their customers in the past. If this exemption is not granted, Lotus will likely cease to be viable in the United States.

Given that Group Lotus Plc. has a plan to work towards producing an Elise with complaint headlamp design, and that granting this exemption would lead to no foreseeable monetary, environmental, or safety issues for any parties, I urge that the exemption be granted.

Sincerely,

Alan Riley
Executive Editor
Roadfly