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SUBJECT: CLARITY PLUG-IN HYBRID HIGH-VOLTAGE BATTERY INSPECTION AFTER SRS DEPLOYMENT OR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE

In the event of a collision involving a *Clarity Plug-In Hybrid* vehicle where an SRS component has deployed or the vehicle has sustained structural damage, Honda Canada Inc. ("Honda") highly recommends that the vehicle be returned to an authorized Clarity Plug-In Hybrid dealer for inspection and testing of the high-voltage lithium ion battery to better ensure system integrity. It is recommended that the inspection is performed prior to any repairs to begin. Unlike many other repair facilities, these authorized dealers have received the specialized training and equipment necessary to inspect and assess the post-crash condition of the high-voltage lithium ion batteries installed in the Clarity Plug-in Hybrid vehicle.

Why does Honda recommend an inspection and testing of the battery? Where a battery is damaged, there is a heightened risk of personal injury or death, and a heightened risk of property damage, resulting from exposure to battery electrolytes and related fumes, or as a result of an uncontrolled thermal event in the battery resulting in a fire. Honda further recommends that the inspection and analysis be performed during the estimating phase of the repair process because battery damage could significantly add to the costs of a repair. Finally, these vehicles should be stored outdoors and away from flammable materials until the battery inspection and analysis is complete.