High Oil Pressure at Start-up on 2017-2018 GM 6.6L, L5P Duramax Diesel Engines

The AERA Technical Committee offers the following information on high oil pressure at start-up on 2017-2018 GM 6.6L, L5P Duramax diesel engines. Reports have been filed that the oil pressure gauge “pegs” or goes as high as it can when this engine first starts when cold.

While this condition seems abnormal, GM states that this may be normal depending on conditions and engine oil temperatures. The dash gauge indicates pressures above 100 psi and that is generally well above owner’s previous vehicles dash gauges. The unfamiliar readings are causing the alarm. GM publishes the oil pressure relief valve opening value is 104-114 psi, so, until the engine oil sees some temperature a high reading may be expected.

The recommended oil is a SAE 15W-40, CJ-4 and using any other oil may affect the dashboard gauge readings.