



P1655 · Kia

Unused Power Stage 'B'

P1655 on Kia vehicles indicates that the engine control module (ECM) has detected an unused power stage 'B' output circuit, meaning the ECM is not receiving the expected feedback from a specific actuator or relay circuit that is not used on this application. The ECM sets this code when it sees an open, short, or unexpected voltage on a power stage output that is not configured for the vehicle's build.

SYSTEM	CODE TYPE	SEVERITY	FIX DIFFICULTY	AREA
Powertrain	Kia specific	Low	Intermediate	Computer and output circuits

Symptoms you may notice

- Often no symptoms besides the warning light
- Possible intermittent rough running or stalling if the circuit is related to a fuel or ignition component
- Reduced engine performance or limp mode in some cases
- Electrical accessories may not function if the power stage controls a relay
- Intermittent no-start condition if the circuit affects the starter or fuel pump
- No noticeable change in driveability in most instances

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Faulty or corroded wiring harness connector at the power stage output
- 2 Open or shorted wire in the power stage 'B' circuit
- 3 Failed relay or actuator that the power stage controls
- 4 ECM internal fault causing false detection
- 5 Water intrusion or corrosion in the underhood fuse box
- 6 Aftermarket accessories improperly wired into the circuit

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Connect a scan tool and verify P1655 is current, then check for related codes and freeze frame data
- 2 Inspect the wiring harness and connectors for the power stage 'B' circuit for damage, corrosion, or loose pins
- 3 Test the relay or actuator controlled by the power stage 'B' for proper resistance and operation
- 4 Check for voltage drops and continuity on the power stage 'B' circuit from the ECM to the component
- 5 Inspect the underhood fuse box for water intrusion or corrosion and repair as needed
- 6 If all external circuits and components test good, suspect an internal ECM fault and perform a substitution test with a known-good ECM
- 7 Clear codes and verify the repair with a test drive and recheck



What P1655 really means on Kia

- P1655 is often set by a loose or corroded connector that causes an intermittent open circuit, not by a failed component.
- On many Kia models, this code is stored in the ECM but does not illuminate the check engine light until the fault occurs multiple times.
- Aftermarket alarm or remote start installations frequently tap into power stage circuits and can trigger this code.
- A weak battery or poor ground connection can cause the ECM to misread power stage feedback and set P1655.
- Do not replace the ECM based solely on this code; always verify the circuit and component first.

Can I keep driving with P1655?

The vehicle is generally safe to drive with P1655 if no driveability symptoms are present, but avoid towing heavy loads or aggressive driving until the fault is diagnosed. If the engine runs rough or stalls, have it inspected promptly.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool
- Digital multimeter
- Wiring diagram for the specific Kia model
- Test light
- Socket set and trim removal tools

Reading P1655

- P** Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
- 1** Manufacturer-specific code (Kia): its meaning depends on the make.
- 6** Computer and output circuits.
- 55** The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P1654 Check DTC Memory Of Control Panel ECU · **P1656** A/C Clutch Relays Circuit Short To Ground · **P1656** OCV Circuit · **P1656** Automatic Transmission System Malfunction · **P1656** Automatic Transmission System Malfunction · **P1654** Service Throttle Soon Lamp Control Circuit · **P1656** Driver 2 Line 6 · **P1656** CAN Link PCM Circuit Network · **P0562** System Voltage Low · **P0600** Serial Communication Link Malfunction · **P0606** PCM Processor Fault



See it working

Watch the animated explainer [Disc Brake Trainer: How Car Brakes Stop a Wheel](#) on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/kia-p1655/>

