

## Drought Relief Permit Payment Exemption – Information Sheet

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) coordinates a range of access applications from start to finish. This involves liaising directly with Road Managers, both state and territory road authorities and local governments, to manage applications and issue permits.

This document provides information about the permit payment exemptions for eligible drought affected operations.

### Background

Drought is currently affecting a large region of the country and is one of the biggest challenges farmers face. It has a significant impact on the economy as well as the social well-being of Australians.

The NHVR have created this initiative in order to help reduce the impacts of drought related operations.

### Eligibility

This payment exemption only applies to operators transporting drought relief products to/from the following locations:

- an individual property that has been drought declared; or
- a regional council or shire that has been drought declared.

### Freight Options

The following freight types will be accepted as part of the payment exemption:

- Fodder freight (can include fodder used in maintenance and feeding of cattle, sheep, goats, deer, pigs, chickens, working and breeding horses);
- Water cartage freight (includes water carted for stock and supply for emergency animal welfare needs);
- Stock relocating due to drought conditions; and
- Emergency water infrastructure.

### Required Documentation

When submitting an application through the NHVR Portal, the operator must supply the following information:

#### If the regional council or shire has been drought declared -

- Evidence of a Property and/or National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) tag, indicating their:
  - shire code; or
  - property number; or
  - location or address of property.

#### If the individual property has been drought declared (Only applicable in Queensland) -

- Produce an Individual Drought Property Approval, certified by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

### Additional Tips

When operating a heavy vehicle load at over 2.5m wide, you will need to submit an 'Oversize and/or Overmass (OSOM)' application utilising the 'Road Train towing OS/OM/OSOM load' configuration set. This will allow the applicant to specify the over width dimension by selecting the 'Oversize (OS)' button.

When operating in Victoria, the heavy vehicle's axle mass and spacing's are required in order to assess the application. To submit an application for an oversize Road Train in Victoria, please utilise the 'Oversize and/or Overmass (OSOM)' application utilising the 'Road Train towing OS/OM/OSOM load' configuration set. Selecting the 'Overmass (OM)' button will allow the applicant to specify the axle mass and spacing's and will assist in fast-tracking the application.

## How do I get my payment exempted?

### Payment Exemption Options

#### Option 1 – Manual Payment Exemption

1. Go to <https://www.service.nhvr.gov.au> and if not already registered, follow the prompts to set up an account.
2. Once registered, from the home screen, click on the 'Application Tracker' tile.
3. Select the 'New Application' button and enter the following customer reference "**Drought Relief Operations**".
4. Select the applicable configuration set and complete all required fields.
5. Select 'Freight' option and select 'Other'.
6. Under 'Description of load' include load type which complies with this document.

7. Attach all required documentation.
8. Complete and save the application as a draft by selecting the 'save' button.
9. Contact our team on [MYNHVR \(1300 696 487\)](tel:1300696487) and we will manually exempt payment and submit application.

### Option 2 – Refund of Payment

1. Go to <https://www.service.nhvr.gov.au> and if not already registered, follow the prompts to set up an account.
2. Once registered, from the home screen, click on the 'Application Tracker' tile.
3. Select the 'New Application' button and enter the following customer reference "Drought Relief Operations".
4. Select the applicable configuration set and complete all required fields.
5. Select 'Freight' option and select 'Other'.
6. Under 'Description of load' include load type which complies with this document.
7. Attach all required documentation.
8. Complete application and select 'Submit new permit application' button.
9. Send an email to [accessenquiries@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:accessenquiries@nhvr.gov.au) and in the subject line reference "refund request – drought relief operations".
10. In the email body reference your case number.
11. NHVR will process refund and reverse payment.

## Gazette Notice for Drought Relief

The NHVR will be publishing a NSW Baled and Rolled Hay Drought Assistance Exemption. This notice will enable dimension concessions for the transportation of baled and rolled hay within areas of NSW that are in drought and will enable feed to be delivered to drought affected livestock. The concession will be applicable to rigid trucks, semi-trailer combinations, low loader combinations and B-doubles travelling on their approved network.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When does this payment exemption become effective?

The payment exemption will be effective as of the Monday 3 August 2018.

### What combinations am I able to utilise to transport drought relief freight?

Any approved configuration may be utilised as long as it complies with the requirements of the Drought Relief Permit Payment Exemption.

### I am transporting fodder to supply food for stock, am I able to get a payment exemption?

Yes, you will be able to obtain a payment exemption.

### I have already applied for drought relief permits earlier this year, will I be refunded?

Unfortunately any permits issued prior will not be reimbursed; the exemption will only apply to applications submitted after this date.

### Where can I find maps to show drought affected areas?

#### Queensland

<https://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/drought/drought-declarations/>

#### New South Wales

<https://edis.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>

#### Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/drought/>

### Can I get help to submit my NHVR Portal applications?

Yes, the NHVR offers a tailored service for those who need help or support using the NHVR Portal. We can assist you in setting up your account as well as step by-step support for submitting applications. Applicants can call 1300 MYNHVR (1300 696 487) during business hours for this service.

### What State is this information sheet applicable to?

This information sheet applies to any state which participates with the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator: Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia & Tasmania.

### Will the drought relief access be added to my current permit?

No, we will be creating a new permit library for the drought relief permits and a separate permit will be issued. This will ensure that your current access is not affected.

## Drought Assistance Contacts

### Australian Capital Territory

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development  
Directorate – Environment - 13 22 81

**New South Wales**

Department of Primary Industries – 1800 808 095

Rural Assistance Authority – 1800 678 593

NSW Drought Coordinator – 02 6881 1290

**South Australia**

Primary Industries and Regions SA – 08 8226 0995

**Queensland**

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries – 13 25 23

Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority

(QRIDA) – 1800 623 946

**Tasmania**

Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment – 1300

368 550

**Victoria**

Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and

Resources – 13 61 86

**For more information:**

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Visit: [www.nhvr.gov.au](http://www.nhvr.gov.au)

Phone: 1300 MYNHVR\* (1300 696 487)

Email: [info@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:info@nhvr.gov.au)

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\*Standard 1300 call charges apply. Please check with your phone provider.