



South Australia Load Carrying Vehicle's Operator's Guide

September 2020

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Purpose

The *South Australia Load Carrying Vehicle's Operator's Guide* works in conjunction with the following Notices:

1. *Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicle Dimension Exemption Notice 2020*
2. *Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicle Mass Exemption Notice 2020.*

When you are operating under either of the Notices above, it is important to read this document for additional conditions of operation.

Background

South Australian heavy vehicle Notices that transitioned on the commencement of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) in South Australia expired on 9 February 2019.

These Notices have been redrafted to ensure that access to the South Australia road network is maintained and the conditions that apply to the operation of vehicles operating under the notice are consistent with the HVNL.

It is important to note that, in 2020, the 2016 version of the Multi-State Load Carrying Vehicle Notices (Mass and Dimension) were republished to include all amendment Notices, with several changes.

List of affected notices

In 2019, the South Australian Schedules to the *Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Dimension Exemption Notice* and *Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Mass Exemption Notice* (LCV Notices) were updated to incorporate the operation of Low Loader combinations previously covered by the notices listed below.

1	<i>Notice of approval and exemption – Operation of 23 metre long prime mover and low loader combinations (and associated Code of Practice)</i>
2	<i>Operation of 49.5 tonne prime mover and low loader combination vehicles in South Australia (and associated Code of Practice)</i>
3	<i>Notice of approval and exemption - Operation of 25 metre long prime mover and low loader combinations with a gross combination mass up to 59.5 tonnes (and associated Code of Practice)</i>

Eligible vehicles

The National LCV Notices will cover the operation of the following vehicles in low loader combinations:

Mass Exemption Notice

1	Prime mover towing a 3, 4 or 5 axle low loader
2	Prime mover towing a tandem axle low loader dolly and 3, 4 or 5 axle low loader

Dimension Exemption Notice (including vehicles covered under the Mass Exemption Notice)

1	Rigid truck
2	Truck and trailer combination
3	Prime mover towing a semi-trailer
4	Prime mover towing a jinker trailer

What has changed?

Updates for 2020 include:

- A maximum deck height requirement of 1.2m when operating above 4.8m high.
- Increase to 100t
- Increase to 4.6m wide
- The requirement for Restricted Access Vehicles (RAV) to undergo an annual inspection, or to be in the Maintenance Module of the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme, has been removed. This also removes the need for an inspection label.

Updates for 2019 include:

- Inclusion of night travel for eligible vehicles up to 3.1m wide and 22m long on road networks managed by participating road managers.
- Increase to the height limit specified in SA's schedule from 4.9m to 5.0m to align with the height limit other jurisdictions. Third party consultation is still required.
- Removal of the requirement to carry the notice.
- A review of South Australia's access for low loader combinations has been undertaken, which has resulted in the amalgamation of the two existing 25m low loader networks.
 - Access for the 25m 49.5t and 59.5t low loaders has been maintained.
 - Based on road manager consideration some mass limits restrictions have been applied, and re-routing of heavy vehicles at the towns of Jamestown and Burra has occurred.
 - From 13 December 2019, operators currently using the 25m 49.5t Low Loader network should instead refer to the 25m 59.5t Low Loader network on RAVnet.

Additional conditions

Areas and routes

Area maps referenced in the notice such as the 'Adelaide Metropolitan Area' are published on the 'Approved Areas or Routes' section at <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/driving-and-transport/heavy-vehicles/operating-a-heavy-vehicle/approved-areas-and-routes-maps>

Alternate access – Yorkeys Crossing

The following conditions provide approval for alternate access when Yorkeys Crossing is closed or restricted:

- a) Travel is permitted via the Joy Baluch AM Bridge in Port Augusta only when the Northern and Western Region (Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure) deem Yorkeys Crossing to be closed or restricted.
- b) Yorkeys Crossing has to be signposted to indicate that it is temporarily closed.
- c) The route permitted when Yorkeys is closed is via Augusta Highway, Victoria Parade, Joy Baluch AM Bridge, Eyre Highway and Stuart Highway & Return.
- d) If the overall width of the vehicle combination exceeds 4.0 metres, then two (2) Police escort must accompany the permit vehicle whilst crossing the Joy Baluch AM Bridge, Port Augusta.
- e) No other vehicles to be on the bridge at the same time as the permit vehicle.
- f) If the total mass of the vehicle combination exceeds 100 tonnes, then travel is not permitted over the Joy Baluch AM Bridge.
- g) If the overall height of the vehicle combination exceeds 5.8 metres, then travel is not permitted over the Joy Baluch AM Bridge.

To arrange a police escort, please phone 131 444. If unable to obtain police on the above number, please phone SA Police Escort Section on 08 8207 6035.

Night travel – Participating Road Managers

Participating Road Managers are outlined in the *Information Bulletin – Areas or routes of operation in South Australia – Night Travel up to 3.1m wide or 22m long* published on the 'Approved Areas or Routes' section at <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/driving-and-transport/heavy-vehicles/operating-a-heavy-vehicle/approved-areas-and-routes-maps>

Relevant Third Parties

Information related to Relevant Third Parties that must be consulted for vehicles operating over 4.3m high[^] is located on the NHVR website at <https://www.nhvr.gov.au/access-contacts>

[^]For SA Power Networks consultation is required for vehicles operating over **4.6m** high.

Pilot and escort vehicles

The *Escorting Guidelines for oversize and overmass vehicles and loads in South Australia* is available on the Oversize and overmass vehicles page at <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/driving-and-transport/heavy-vehicles/operating-a-heavy-vehicle/oversize-and-overmass-vehicles>

Escorts for travel over structures

As outlined in the Escorting Guideline, operators must have SA Police in attendance to preserve safety and direct traffic while travelling over the following structures:

- When vehicles and/or loads exceed 3.5m in width:
 - Hindmarsh Island Bridge – Goolwa Police
- When vehicles and/or loads exceed 4.0m in width:
 - Port Augusta Bridge – Port Augusta Police
 - Swanport Bridge – Murray Bridge Police
 - Berri Bridge – Berri Police
 - Blanchetown Bridge – Blanchetown Police
 - Kingston Bridge – Barmera Police

To arrange police escort at the above sites, please phone 131 444. Prior arrangement is required in order to avoid delays.

What hasn't changed?

Access and operating conditions applicable to the published networks specified in the notice, as well as maximum allowable masses and dimensions for each low loader type.

Additional route assessment conditions

For the purposes of section 11 of Schedule 8 of the MDL National Regulation—

- a) The driver or operator of an eligible vehicle must undertake a route survey (a) before travel to ensure that the vehicle can do so safely and without—
 - i) damaging road, structure (including a bridge), rail crossing, tree, road infrastructure, or roadside furniture; or
 - ii) disrupting essential services, including telecommunication, electricity, rail, gas, water or sewage services.
- b) Prior to commencing a journey a driver or operator of an eligible vehicle must check a route network map mentioned in the relevant Schedule of the Notice for updates and any restrictions or limitation applying to the proposed route.

For the purposes of section 11(1) of Schedule 8, the driver or operator must, before commencing the relevant journey, identify any relevant road closures and road conditions or restrictions that may inhibit the movement of the eligible vehicle. **Note:** The relevant sources for subsection are published at <https://www.nhvr.gov.au/access-contacts>

Operator compliance responsibility

While the new Notice is not required to be carried under the HVNL, operators are encouraged to read and become familiar with the document as it is a legal requirement to comply with the conditions when operating under the Notice.

Contact the Department for Infrastructure and Transport

For clarification on any of the information outlined above, the Department's Heavy Vehicle Policy and Strategy team can be contacted as below:

Email: DPTI.RoadAuthority@sa.gov.au

Phone: 1300 334 640

For more information:

Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au

Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe

Email: info@nhvr.gov.au

Phone: 1300 MYNHVR* (1300 696487)

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

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