South Australia Load Carrying Vehicle’s Operator’s Guide

July 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

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

Background


These Notices have been re-drafted 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, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Notice of approval and exemption – Operation of 23 metre long prime mover and low loader combinations (and associated Code of Practice)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Operation of 49.5 tonne prime mover and low loader combination vehicles in South Australia (and associated Code of Practice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>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)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligible Vehicles

The National LCV notices will cover the operation of the following vehicles in Low Loader combinations:

**Mass Exemption Notice**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prime mover towing a 3, 4 or 5 axle low loader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Prime mover towing a tandem axle low loader dolly and 3, 4 or 5 axle low loader</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rigid truck</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Truck and trailer combination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Prime mover towing a semi-trailer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Prime mover towing a jinker trailer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
- Future roadworthiness requirements

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.
- For further information regarding Maintenance Management, please refer to the Information Sheet titled NHVAS Maintenance, available on the DPTI website at www.sa.gov.au/heavyvehicles
- 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 www.sa.gov.au/heavyvehicles

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 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 [www.sa.gov.au/heavyvehicles](http://www.sa.gov.au/heavyvehicles).

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](https://www.nhvr.gov.au/access-contacts)

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

Pilot and Escort 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 whilst 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.

Future Roadworthiness Requirements

- The requirement to satisfy roadworthiness has not been applied consistently to load carrying vehicles transporting indivisible items in South Australia.

- Load carrying combinations that operated under the retired SA notices *Operation of 49.5 tonne prime mover and loader combination vehicle* and the *Approval and Exemption of 23m long prime mover and low loader combinations* were required to be accredited under an approved National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme (NHVAS) maintenance management program.

This same requirement was not applied to load carrying vehicles up to 59.5 tonne or combinations operating under the *Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Dimension Exemption Notice* and *Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Mass Exemption Notice* (LCV Notices).

- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) reviewed roadworthiness requirements for load carrying vehicles and determined that eligible SA registered vehicles covered by 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) have until **30 April 2021** to either:
  - hold NHVAS maintenance management accreditation for the vehicle; or
  - display the appropriate inspection label as issued by DPTI which identifies the type of vehicle configuration and the inspection expiry date.
This phased approach will ensure operators are not adversely impacted through the imposition of roadworthiness requirements where it was previously not a requirement.

For more information please refer to the Information Sheet - NHVAS Maintenance Management, available on the DPTI website at www.sa.gov.au/heavyvehicles

What Has Not 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 of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure

For clarification on any of the information outlined above, the DPTI Heavy Vehicle Policy and Strategy team can be contacted per 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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