

Enquiry Details are below:

Enquiry Type: Others

Enquiry Priority: Low

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Enquiry Description:

To whom it may concern

Looking at the current structure of the Grain Harvest Management Scheme (GHMS), I believe one of the biggest challenges is the need to improve the cross border harmonisation.

Currently a variation exists in four states (WA, NSW, Qld and Vic). For jurisdictions operating under Heavy vehicle National Law (HVNL) being NSW, Qld and Vic; these allowances vary from 5-10 percent between states.

I propose that the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator provide a nation-wide, consistent and integrated approach to cross-border heavy vehicle harmonisation (in general).

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) administers one set of laws for heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass. This is the National Heavy Vehicle Law (NHVL) and consists of five sets of regulations and yet it is not nationally consistent. It only covers half of Australia and every participating jurisdiction has its own set of rules and regulations.

Variations in law create problems for interstate operators around compliance and enforcement. The more diversions in the law, the more resources that the operators will need to expend on to understand and maintain compliance. This has a direct impact on productivity for operators in cross-border regions and sees the current complexity of the system as a natural barrier to expansion for business.

The other major challenge is that there are varying levels of access for vehicles crossing state and territory borders.

For example, a road manager may have approved access for a vehicle on one side of a border whilst the road manager on the other side of the border has refused access for that particular vehicle. In this instance, the vehicle cannot proceed on their route. This can prove to be a very costly and inconvenient situation.

It would be beneficial to all if this was to come to fruition in the proposed National Harvest Mass Management Scheme (NHMMS).

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards

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