



## HEAVY VEHICLE NATIONAL LAW

### National Class 3 Supplementary Access (Western Australia Assistance) Exemption Notice 2024 (No.3)

#### 1. Purpose

This Notice exempts eligible Class 3 heavy vehicles that are road trains up to 53.5m in length to a specified network between South Australia to Western Australia. This Notice grants exemptions to certain axle mass requirements under Schedule 1 of the *Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation* (MDL Regulation) and provides alternative conditional mass limits. The purpose of this access is to allow increased freight capacity on alternative specified areas or routes during a period when regular rail and road freight routes are affected by natural disaster.

*Note: As a class 3 exemption, this Notice applies to any vehicle that complies with the conditions of this Notice, up to the specified conditional masses. Apart from the exempted mass limits, a vehicle must comply with all other requirements of the Heavy Vehicle National Law.*

#### 2. Authorising provision

- 1) This Notice is made under the following provisions of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL):
  - a) Section 117 – *Regulator’s power to exempt a category of class 1 or class 3 heavy vehicles*

#### 3. Title

This Notice may be cited as the *National Class 3 Supplementary Access (Western Australia Assistance) Exemption Notice 2024 (No.3)*.

#### 4. Commencement date

This Notice commences on 4 April 2024.

#### 5. Expiry date

This Notice expires on 10 April 2024.

## 6. Definitions

Unless otherwise stated, words and expression used in this Notice have the same meanings as those in the HVNL and its regulations.

## 7. Application

- 1) This Notice applies to a heavy vehicle that meets all of the requirements of this section.
- 2) This Notice applies to a heavy vehicle that is a class 2 road train that does not exceed 53.5m in length, and that meets the definition of a Type-2 road train under section 6 of the *National Class 2 Road Train Authorisation Notice*.
- 3) This Notice applies to a heavy vehicle that is:
  - a) transporting goods from South Australia to Western Australia along the routes specified in section 10; or
  - b) making a return journey along the routes specified in section 10 from Western Australia to South Australia after completing a journey under a).
- 4) This Notice only applies to a heavy vehicle operating in the stated routes set out in section 10.
- 5) A heavy vehicle to which this section applies is an eligible vehicle.

## 8. Exemption – Prescribed mass requirements

- 1) An eligible vehicle is exempt from the following mass requirements under Schedule 1 of the *Heavy Vehicle (Mass Dimension and Loading) National Regulation* (MDL Regulation):
  - a) section 4 – Mass limits for a single axle or axle group
- 2) An exemption in 1) only applies to the extent provided by specific conditional mass limits in section 9 of this Notice.

## 9. Conditions – Mass (axle masses)

- 1) An eligible vehicle operating under this Notice may not exceed the following mass limits relating to axles:
  - a) a tandem axle group – 17t
  - b) a tri-axle group – 22.5t.

## **10. Conditions – Areas and routes**

- 1) For the purposes of section 121(1)(c) of the HVNL, a network set out in Schedule 1 is a stated areas or routes to which this Notice applies.
- 2) An eligible vehicle operating on an areas or routes under this section must comply with the following conditions relevant to it:
  - a) Road conditions pursuant to section 160 of HVNL; and
  - b) Travel conditions pursuant to section 161 of the HVNL; and
  - c) Vehicle conditions pursuant to section 162 of the HVNL.

## **11. Conditions – Certified road-friendly suspension systems**

- 1) The following specified axle groups on eligible vehicles operating under this Notice must be fitted with the following when those axle groups exceed regulation mass limits:
  - a) for tandem axle groups – a certified road-friendly suspension system
  - b) for tri-axle groups – a certified road-friendly suspension system
- 2) Any system or equipment specified in this section must be functioning when an eligible vehicle is operating under this Notice.

## **12. Conditions – Mass Management Accreditation**

If an eligible vehicle operating under this Notice is fitted with a tri-axle group that exceeds regulation mass limits, the driver of the vehicle must hold mass management accreditation for the vehicle.

Peter Austin  
*Director (Safety and Productivity)*  
**National Heavy Vehicle Regulator**

## Schedule 1 Stated areas and routes

### 1. Areas or routes

- 1) Table 1 sets out stated routes pursuant to section 10 of this Notice. An eligible vehicle may operate on the route set out in column 1 under the conditions noted in column 2 of each table.

### 2. Condition – Continuity of route

- 1) An eligible vehicle must follow the route specified in Table 1 or 2 either:
  - a) from the route's start point to its end point; or
  - b) on a return journey after a journey under a) from the route's end point to its start point.
- 2) The start and end point of the route are specified in Column 2 of each table.

**Table 1: Stated Route – Lincoln Gap to Western Australia Border**

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b>Stated areas or routes</b>	<b>Notes</b>
53.5m Road Train (HML), Port Augusta West – Lincoln Gap	Start Point
Eyre Hwy, Nullarbor	
SA / WA Border, Eyre Highway, Nullarbor	End Point

*Note: Regardless of any conditions in Column 2 of Table 1 in this Schedule, all official traffic signs must be complied with.*

*Caution to be taken at the intersection of Eyre Hwy from Lincoln Hwy. A left turn cannot be commenced until intersection is clear.*

*Rail clearance should be obtained prior to travel pursuant to rail owner requirements.*