

Vehicle Standard (Australian Design Rule 83/00 – Emission Control for Heavy vehicles) 2005 Amendment 1

Made under section 7 of the Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989

Explanatory Statement

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional
Development and Local Government

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1. LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Vehicle Standard (Australian Design Rule 83/00 — External Noise) 2005 Amendment 1 was made under the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* (the Act). The Act enables the Australian Government to establish nationally uniform standards for road vehicles when they are first supplied to the market in Australia. The Act applies to such vehicles whether they are manufactured in Australia or are imported as new or second hand vehicles. The making of the vehicle standards necessary for the Act's effective operation is provided for in section 7 which empowers the Minister to "determine vehicle standards for road vehicles or vehicle components".

2. CONTENT AND EFFECT OF ADR 80/02 AND ITS AMENDMENT

2.1. Overview of the ADR

Australian Design Rule (ADR) 83/00 – External Noise - prescribes the external noise limits for light and heavy duty vehicles, motorcycles and mopeds; it also prescribes the procedures for the measurement of noise from these vehicles. ADR83/00 is based on UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Regulation 51/02 emissions standards, and Ministers of the Australian Transport Council voted unanimously to approve the standard in February 2003. It was gazetted on 14 March 2003.

In August 2004 the then Government agreed to defer the noise standards for heavy vehicles in ADR83/00 by 12 months to give industry more time to prepare for these standards and the exhaust emission standards for heavy vehicles (ADR80/02) which were taking effect at the same time. In April 2005, Ministers of the Australian Transport Council (ATC) and the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) endorsed a revised implementation date of 1 January 2008 for the noise and exhaust emission standards of for all heavy vehicles.

2.2. Changes to the ADR

In December 2008, the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government agreed to amend the 1 January 2008 implementation date for ADR80/02 until 29 February 2008. This was in response to a request from the bus and truck industry for additional time to build and supply the last of their stock of vehicle models meeting the earlier emission standard.

In January 2008, the bus industry and some truck manufacturers subsequently sought a matching deferral for ADR83/00 – which was also to take effect from 1 January 2008. The manufacturers contend that many of the vehicles covered by the earlier ADR80/02 deferral are not capable of meeting the new noise standard (ADR83/00), and even if they could meet the new standard, manufacturers could not develop, test, certify and deploy noise reduction packages by the 29 February deadline. The vehicles do comply with the earlier noise standard.

Considering the likely economic impact on bus and truck manufacturers, this amendment to ADR83/00 provides a matching extension of the implementation date until 29 February 2008.

3. REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT

A Regulation Impact Statement was not prepared since this amendment is a relaxation of the original arrangements.
