

**Note: This version includes amendments approved by the Minister, as published in the NSW Government Gazette on 1 March 2013, and effective from 1 March 2013.**

## ROAD TRANSPORT (GENERAL) ACT 2005

### ***Ministerial Declaration (Livestock Loading Scheme) Order 2012***

I, Duncan Gay, Minister for Roads and Ports, pursuant to section 16 of the *Road Transport (General) Act 2005*, make the following Order.

Dated this 22nd day of November 2012.

DUNCAN GAY, MLC  
Minister for Roads and Ports

#### PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

**1. Citation**

This Order may be cited as the ***Ministerial Declaration (NSW Livestock Loading Scheme) Order 2012***.

**2. Commencement**

This Order takes effect on and from 1 December 2012.

**3. Effect**

This Order remains in effect until it is revoked.

**4. Interpretation**

Unless otherwise stated, words and expressions used in this Order have the same meaning as those defined in the *Road Transport (General) Act 2005*.

**5. Definitions**

In this Order:

***certified road friendly suspension*** means a road friendly suspension system certified in accordance with Vehicle Standards Bulletin No 11 issued by the Department of Transport and Regional Services of the Commonwealth.

***NSW Livestock Loading Scheme*** means the Scheme of that name approved for the purposes of Part 6 of the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005*.

***State Roads*** means roads designated as a State Road in the *Schedule of Classified Roads and State & Regional Roads* published on the RMS website, as amended from time to time.

**6. Declaration**

- (a) The axle mass limits in Table 1 and the total combinations mass limits in clause 6 of Schedule 1 to the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005* are declared not to apply to a combination described in Part 2 of this Order,

provided the combination complies with the mass limits set out in Part 3 of this Order and the operating conditions set out in Part 4 of this Order.

- (b) The requirements of clause 69(4) of the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005* are declared not to apply to the NSW Livestock Loading Scheme.

## **PART 2 – APPLICATION**

### **7. Eligible combinations**

The following types of combinations may operate in accordance with this Order:

- (a) Single articulated vehicles which consist of a prime mover and a semi-trailer, and have a deck length available for the carriage of animals not exceeding 12.5 metres;
- (b) B-doubles that have an overall length not exceeding 19.0 metres and a combined deck length available for the carriage of animals not exceeding 15.0 metres; and
- (c) B-doubles that have an overall length not exceeding 26.0 metres and a combined deck length available for the carriage of animals not exceeding 18.8 metres; and
- (d) Road trains that have an overall length not exceeding 36.5 metres, and a minimum distance between the centres of the outermost axles of a road train of at least 26.5m metres, and a combined deck length available for the carriage of animals not exceeding 25.0 metres.
- (e) B-triples that consist of a prime mover and three semi-trailers and have a combined deck length available for the carriage of animals not exceeding 28.2 metres.
- (f) AB-triples that consist of a prime mover and semi-trailer combination connected, by a converter dolly, to two semi-trailers which are connected by a fifth wheel coupling, that have a combined deck length available for the carriage of animals not exceeding 28.2 metres.

### **8. Vehicle standards**

Combinations operating in accordance with this Order must have:

- (a) a prime mover with a tandem axle drive group, and
- (b) semi-trailer(s) with either tandem axle or tri-axle group(s), or in the case of a B-double not exceeding 19.0 metres in length, semi-trailers with tandem axle groups only; and
- (c) in the case of a road train or an AB-triple, either a tandem axle or tri-axle group on the converter dolly, and
- (d) either single tyres with section width of at least 375 mm, dual tyres, or a combination of those tyres, on all axle groups, and
- (e) certified road friendly suspension fitted and maintained in working order on all axle groups of all semi-trailers.
- (f) in the case of a B-Triple or AB-triple, certified road friendly suspension fitted and maintained in working order on all axle groups.

**NOTE:** Certified road friendly suspension is optional for prime movers on single trailer combinations, B-doubles and road trains, and for the converter dolly on a road train. Lower mass limits apply to axle groups not fitted with certified road friendly suspension.

## 9. Intelligent Access Program

B-triples and AB-triples may only operate under this Order if they are enrolled in the Intelligent Access Program and are operating in accordance with the operating conditions on their Intelligent Access Program permit.

NOTE: Operating conditions for B-triples and AB-triples operating under the NSW Livestock Loading Scheme are published on the RMS website.

## PART 3 – MASS LIMITS

### 10. Mass limits apply when carrying livestock loads

The mass limits set out in this Part apply to combinations described in Part 2 of this Order when carrying loads of cattle, sheep, pigs or goats.

### 11. Total mass limits – combinations

The total mass of a combination must not exceed the lowest of the following:

- (a) the sum of the axle and axle group mass limits in Clause 12, or
- (b) the GCM limit specified by the prime mover manufacturer, or
- (c) the sum of the GVMS for the prime mover and the trailer or trailers it is towing.

### 12. Axle and axle group mass limits

The mass of an axle or axle group must not exceed the limits set out in Table A of this Order, except as provided for by Clause 12.

**Table A - Axle and axle group mass limits**

<b>STEER AXLE GROUPS</b>	<b>MASS LIMIT</b>
Single steer axle	6.0 tonnes
<b>NON-STEER AXLE GROUPS</b>	
Tandem axle group not fitted with certified road friendly suspension	16.5 tonnes
Tandem axle group fitted certified road friendly suspension	17.0 tonnes
Tri-axle group not fitted with certified road friendly suspension (converter dollies only)	16.5 tonnes
Tri-axle group fitted with certified road friendly suspension	22.5 tonnes

NOTE: Prime movers that comply with the *Class 3 Single Steer Axle Mass Limit Exemption Notice* may exceed the 6.0 tonnes mass limit for a single steer axle by 0.5 tonnes.

### 13. Floating 0.5 tonne tri-axle mass limit concession

The mass of a tri-axle group of a semi trailer may exceed the limit set out in Table A by up to 0.5 tonne, as long as the total mass of the combination does not exceed the total mass limit specified in Clause 11.

#### **14. Mass limits related to axle spacing**

Combinations operating in accordance with this Order may exceed the mass limits related to axle spacing set out in clause 3 and Table 2 of Schedule 1 to the *Road Transport (Mass, Loading and Access) Regulation 2005* by:

- (a) 0.5 tonnes for each tandem axle groups fitted with certified road friendly suspension and;
- (b) 2.5 tonnes for each tri-axle group fitted with certified road friendly suspension.

### **PART 4 - OPERATING CONDITIONS**

#### **15. Vehicle labels or plates**

- (a) All vehicles operating under this Order must display a NSW Livestock Loading Scheme label issued by NSW Roads and Maritime Services.
- (b) The requirement in subclause 15(a) does not apply to vehicles registered in another State or Territory if they comply with the following requirements:
  - (i) In the case of vehicles registered in Victoria, the vehicle displays a Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme plate, and the driver carries a copy of the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme certificate issued by VicRoads.
  - (ii) In the case of vehicles registered in Queensland, the vehicle has a modification plate that displays the vehicle's maximum axle capacities, tare mass, king pin rating and the code S10.
  - (iii) In the case of vehicles registered in South Australia, the vehicle displays a current Transport SA Livestock Loading label.
  - (iv) In the case of vehicles registered in Western Australia, the driver carries a current Concessional Livestock Loading permit issued by Main Roads Western Australia.
  - (v) In the case of vehicles registered in the Northern Territory, the driver carries a current Northern Territory Livestock Loading permit.

#### **16. Driver training**

- (a) From 1 May 2013, drivers of combinations operating under this Order must have successfully completed the NSW Livestock Loading Scheme driver training course approved by NSW Roads and Maritime Services.
- (b) The requirement in subclause 16 (a) does not apply to drivers who have successfully completed the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme driver training course.
- (c) From 1 May 2013, the driver must carry evidence, in a form approved by NSW Roads and Maritime Services, indicating the driver has successfully completed the approved NSW Livestock Loading Scheme driver training course, or a copy of the certificate issued by the provider of the Victorian Livestock Loading Scheme training course.

## 17. Approved routes

Combinations operating under this Order may operate on the following routes, except where prohibited by a load limit specified for a road, bridge or causeway by a sign or notice.

- (a) Single articulated vehicles may operate on the routes approved for Higher Mass Limits short combinations, as shown on the Higher Mass Limits maps published on the RMS website, and on all other State Roads.
- (b) B-doubles not exceeding 19.0 metres in length may operate on routes approved for 19m B-doubles with a total combination mass exceeding 50 tonnes, as shown on the Restricted Access Vehicle maps published on the RMS website, and on all State Roads approved for B-doubles not exceeding 26.0 metres in length, as shown on the Restricted Access Vehicle maps published on the RMS website.
- (c) B-doubles exceeding 19.0 metres in length but not exceeding 26.0 metres in length may operate on the routes approved for Higher Mass Limits B-doubles, as shown on the Higher Mass Limits maps published on the RMS website.
- (d) Road trains not exceeding 36.5 metres in length may operate on the routes approved for Higher Mass Limits road trains, as shown on the Higher Mass Limits maps published on the RMS website, and on all State Roads approved for road trains not exceeding 36.5 metres in length, as shown on the Restricted Access Vehicle maps published on the RMS website.
- (e) B-triples may operate on routes approved for General Mass Limits B-triples, as shown on the B-triple and AB-triple maps published on the RMS website.
- (f) AB-triples may operate on routes approved for General Mass Limits AB-triples, as shown on the B-triple and AB-triple maps published on the RMS website.

NOTE: This Order was amended effective 1 March 2013 to extend the NSW Livestock Loading Scheme to all NSW State Roads, provided vehicles comply with applicable Restricted Access Vehicle routes.

This Order will be further amended during 2013 to extend the NSW Livestock Loading Scheme to local and regional roads as approved by the relevant roads authority.