

## Information for road managers

### Transition to National Class 2 B-double Authorisation Notice 2018

#### Background

The National Harmonisation Program has been established to reduce inconsistencies in road access conditions across participating states and territories (jurisdictions).

The initial work program includes the development of the following four priority notices:

- National Class 2 B-double Authorisation Notice
- National Higher Mass Limits Declaration
- National Class 2 Road Train Authorisation Notice
- National Class 1 Agricultural Vehicle and Combination Exemption Notice.

#### New national B-double notice

Following an extensive review of the current *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation (Notice) 2014*, the NHVR will be introducing a new 'harmonised' national notice. This will replace the current notice that will expire in February 2019 and deliver to operators consistent access conditions when crossing state and territory borders.

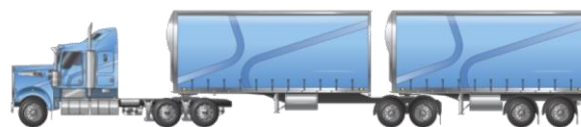
The new notice will apply in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria. It will apply to the same B-doubles that currently operate, with no change to mass or dimension limits, except in South Australia (see below).

#### What's changing?

Key changes include the following:

- The general access bridge formulae will be applied nationally to all 19-metre B-double operations up to a mass of 50 tonnes (apart from in Tasmania where 21-metre B-doubles operate under general access). This will provide road managers with additional road infrastructure protection through alignment of the appropriate bridge formulae.
- Redundant conditions legislated through other law have been removed.
- South Australia will increase the mass of general access 19-metre B-doubles from 42.5 tonnes to 50 tonnes. This will align with the 3-axle rigid truck

towing a 4-axle dog trailer that currently has general access at 50 tonnes (as per the diagrams below)—an arrangement that has been in place for more than four years.



19-metre B-double



19-metre truck and dog

#### What's not changing?

**Same vehicles:** Under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL), a B-double is a Class 2 heavy vehicle that meets the mass and dimension requirements set out in the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) Regulation. The new national notice will not introduce any new B-double combinations.

**Same networks:** The new national notice will carry over the same networks as those included in the current notice.

#### What do we require from you?

The HVNL requires us to gain your formal consent—as a road manager—to the continuation of the current networks for B-doubles under the new national notice. This means we are asking you to approve the same B-doubles that are currently approved to operate in your local council area.

On **12 June 2018**, we will send you a formal request for consent to which you will need to **respond within 28 days**.

We will therefore require your response by **9 July 2018**.

To approve continuation of the current network, you can simply respond 'yes'.

If for any reason you should choose not to grant consent, you will be required to provide an explanation of your decision in writing. This may then be subject to review by the NHVR and/or the relevant state or territory road transport authority.

Because of the importance of the B-double network, we will be strictly adhering to the mandatory response requirement. If we have not heard from you within the 28 days, you may expect to be contacted by a state/territory or local government representative.

### Why is your consent important?

By providing consent within the 28-day timeframe, your local B-double network will continue to operate as it currently does once the harmonised notice comes into effect.

This will ensure:

- Your council doesn't receive increased numbers of permit applications for freight movements that were previously covered by general access arrangements.
- Local transport operators running B-doubles can continue to access depots, feedlots, farms and key freight routes without permits, avoiding significant impacts to local businesses and communities.
- Current day-to-day local transport activities, such as fuel or produce delivery, won't be affected.

### Where can you find your B-double networks?

You will find the existing B-double networks for your council on the internet at the following locations:

#### Australian Capital Territory

<http://www.tccs.act.gov.au/roads-paths/restricted-access-vehicle-networks>

#### Queensland

<https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Heavy-vehicles/Multi-combination-vehicles/Maps>

#### New South Wales

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/maps/restricted-access-vehicles-map/map/index.html>

#### South Australia

<http://maps.sa.gov.au/ravnet/index.html>

#### Tasmania

[http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles/heavy\\_vehicle\\_s/access](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/vehicles/heavy_vehicle_s/access)

#### Victoria

<http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/heavy-vehicle-map-networks-in-victoria>

### For more information

Please call the NHVR Road Manager Hotline on 1300 880 493 or email [RM.enquiries@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:RM.enquiries@nhvr.gov.au)