



Land Transport Industry – COVID-19 Response Update 18 September 2020

The Land Transport Industry (Industry) is playing a critical role during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, highlighting the importance of the Industry in supporting Australian communities and the economy by providing essential supplies of food, medicine and other goods.

This update is a part of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications' (the Department) continuing ongoing engagement with Industry, regulators, other Commonwealth agencies and state and territory governments as we move towards recovery.

As state and territory governments take measures under the Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia, the Department has developed the collection of resources in this Update to assist Industry. Industry should continue to refer to the Australian Government websites at www.australia.gov.au and www.health.gov.au, along with relevant state and territory government websites, for the most up to date advice.

Recent Updates

Reporting a positive COVID-19 test

On 7 August 2020, the National Cabinet agreed to the Freight Movement Code for the Domestic Border Controls—Freight Movements Protocol (Code). The Code states that workers who receive a positive test are required to notify either the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (for heavy vehicle drivers) or the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator. This process was included in the Code to ensure that heavy vehicle drivers and rail crew had a single point of contact that could assist them should they receive a positive test, and to ensure that contact tracing could be conducted in a timely way. State and territory health agencies have since confirmed that existing health agency notification and contact tracing processes are able to perform this process, even in circumstances where freight workers have travelled through a number of jurisdictions in the days prior to receiving a positive COVID-19 test result.

If a freight worker receives a positive test, they are required to notify the health agency of the state or territory they are currently in to seek medical advice and guidance regarding health and safety requirements.

Health Contact Numbers:

- New South Wales - 1300 066 055
- Victoria - 1300 651 170
- Queensland - 13 43 25 84
- Western Australia - 1300 316 555
- South Australia - 1300 232 272
- Tasmania - 1300 135 513
- Australian Capital Territory - (02) 5124 9213
- Northern Territory - 1800 020 08

Pop Up COVID-19 Testing Facilities

As part of the Code, some state and territory governments have introduced pop up testing facilities at suitable locations for industry. Pop up sites are currently operating in New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia. State and territory government websites should be monitored as these services are updated in response to industry needs.

- New South Wales - www.nsw.gov.au/news/pop-up-covid-19-testing-clinics-for-freight-workers
- Queensland - www.health.qld.gov.au/darlingdowns/includes/covid-19-faq
- South Australia - www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid+2019/covid-19+response/covid-19+clinics+and+testing+centres



Images from the COVID-19 Testing Facility at Goondiwindi, Queensland

Monitoring Heavy Vehicle Driver Shortage

Throughout this pandemic, the Commonwealth has worked closely with state and territory governments to remove barriers to the movement of freight across Australia. Recent concerns have been raised regarding the shortage of skilled heavy vehicle drivers to meet changing demand. The Commonwealth is closely monitoring this issue so that drivers can continue to operate in a safe environment.

Victoria's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Roadmap to Reopening

The Victorian Government has released their plan for easing of Victoria's restrictions, with a roadmap for both Regional Victoria and Melbourne Metro. From 11:59pm 13 September 2020, some restrictions have been eased across Victoria, with Metro Melbourne entering the First Step and Regional Victoria the Second Step of the Roadmap to Reopening. From 11:59pm 16 September 2020, Regional Victoria moved to the Third Step of the Roadmap to Reopening

Whilst freight is allowed to continue to operate, with a COVIDSafe Plan in place, it is important to understand what restrictions are in place if you are transporting goods through Victoria.

Detailed information about the Roadmap to Reopening can be found at:

- Regional Victoria: www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-reopening-roadmap-regional-victoria
- Melbourne Metro: www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-reopening-roadmap-metro-melbourne

Australian Government Resources

General COVID-19

- Essential Information updates from the Australian Government are available at: www.australia.gov.au.
- The COVIDSafe app has been released to help speed up contacting people who may have been exposed to COVID-19. Downloading the COVIDSafe app is completely voluntary. Please read the information from the Department of Health at: www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covidsafe-app before downloading. A video explaining how the COVIDSafe App works is at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jl3uPu9sYRg.
- Health advice and resources are available from the Department of Health at: www.health.gov.au.
- Safe Work Australia also COVID-19 information for the workplace at: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/covid-19-information-workplaces.
- The National COVID-19 Commission developed a Quick Guide with ideas to reduce community transmission risks, available at: www.pmc.gov.au/ncc/protect-your-business.
- The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment is working with state and territory governments to develop and implement an Australian Agriculture Workers Code. This Code may be of relevance to some transport operators and is available at: www.agriculture.gov.au/coronavirus/industry.

Economic Response

- Details of the Australian Government economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic are available from the Treasury at: www.treasury.gov.au, including specific support for affected businesses at: www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/businesses.

Regulator Resources

- The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) provides regular updates on their dedicated COVID-19 webpage. Information about the NHVR's response to the COVID-19 pandemic is available at: www.nhvr.gov.au/coronavirus
- The Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator has a Fact Sheet on their response to COVID-19 pandemic, available at: www.onrsr.com.au.



State and Territory Government Resources

Jurisdiction	Requirements
Queensland	<p>Border Information: www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/border-closing</p> <p>Queensland Border Declaration Pass (Freight and Logistics): www.qld.gov.au/border-pass/freight-and-logistics</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/testing-and-fever-clinics</p>
Western Australia	<p>Direction: www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/transport-freight-and-logistics-direction</p> <p>Testing Direction: www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/presentation-testing-directions-no-4</p> <p>FAQ: www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/g2g-pass-travel-exemptions-frequently-asked-questions</p>
South Australia	<p>Border Information: www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/restrictions-and-responsibilities/travel-restrictions</p> <p>Remote Communities: www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/restrictions-and-responsibilities/restrictions-on-movement-into-aboriginal-communities2</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid+2019/covid-19+response/covid-19+clinics+and+testing+centres</p>
Tasmania	<p>Border Information: https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/coming-to-tasmania</p> <p>G2G PASS: https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/g2g-pass</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/essential-travellers</p> <p>Quarantine Conditions: www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/essential-travellers/quarantine-conditions-for-essential-travellers</p>
Northern Territory	<p>Border Information: https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/community-advice/border-controls</p> <p>Border Entry Form: https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel/interstate-arrivals</p> <p>Exemption Application: https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel/exemptions#/person_providing_services_for_transport_or_freight_of_goods</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/stay-safe/symptoms-testing</p>
New South Wales	<p>Border Information: www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/border-restrictions</p> <p>COVID-19 NSW Border Entry Permit: www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-covid-19-nsw-border-entry-permit</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics</p>
Victoria	<p>Victoria COVID-19 webpage: www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus</p> <p>Permitted Worker Scheme: www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/permitted-worker-scheme-covid-19</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19</p>
Australian Capital Territory	<p>Border Controls: www.covid19.act.gov.au/community/travelling-and-transport</p> <p>Exemption Application: www.covid19.act.gov.au/exemption-application</p> <p>COVID Testing Facilities: www.covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/symptoms-and-getting-tested</p>