**NATIONAL HEAVY VEHICLE LAW**

**National Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High by Construction Semitrailer Dimension Exemption Notice 2024 (No.1)**

1. **Purpose**

The purpose of this notice is to exempt a stated category of class 3 heavy vehicles from the height limit stated in section 8 of Schedule 6 of the Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation (the National Regulation).

1. **Authorising Provision**

This notice is made under Section 117 of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL).

1. **Title**

This Notice may be cited as the *National Class 3 Heavy Vehicle 4.6m High by Construction Semitrailer Dimension Exemption Notice 2024 (No.1).*

1. **Commencement**

This Notice commences on 10 February 2024.

1. **Expiry**

This Notice expires on 9 February 2029.

1. **Definitions**
2. Unless otherwise stated, words and expressions used in this Notice and its Schedules have the same meanings as those defined in the HVNL.
3. In this Notice and its Schedules:-

**4.6m high semitrailer** means a semitrailer, used in a combination, that:

1. is constructed higher than 4.3m but not constructed higher than 4.6m; and
2. does not include a class 1 heavy vehicle.

**Load support height** means the perpendicular distance from the ground to the level at which a load is supported on a semitrailer. This includes:

1. the area ordinarily considered a deck; and
2. the floor of a bin or tank that is integral to the trailer; and
3. any other load bearing points such as the frame of a skeleton trailer or vehicle carrier; and
4. any area above an axle group under a fifth wheel coupling, measured from the ground to the level at which the towed unit is supported by the coupling.

**Participating jurisdiction** means New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria.

**Semitrailer length** means the distance from the front of the semitrailer to the rear of the semitrailer, not including any load.

1. **Application**

This notice applies to 4.6m high semitrailers operating in participating jurisdictions.

1. **Exemption from prescribed dimension requirements**
2. This notice exempts 4.6m high semitrailers from the following dimension requirements specified in Schedule 6 of the Regulation:
3. Section 8(1)(d) - height.
4. **Condition - Stated Routes, Areas and Networks**

A 4.6m high semitrailer operating under this notice may access the stated routes, areas and networks specified in the Schedules of each participating jurisdiction.

1. **Conditions - General**
2. Each 4.6m high semitrailer that is constructed higher than 4.3m must comply with the following mass limits:
3. for a combination consisting of a prime mover and semitrailer, the mass of the combination must not be more than 90% of the mass requirements specified under Schedule 1 of the MDL;
4. for a combination consisting of a B-double or a road train, the mass of the combination must not be more than 90% of the lesser of:
   1. the prescribed mass requirements under Schedule 1 of the MDL; or
   2. the mass limits specified under the class 2 heavy vehicle authorisation for the B-double or road train, if the relevant class 2 heavy vehicle authorisation specifies a lesser mass limit.
5. The load support height of any given 4.6m high semi-trailer that is part of a combination operating under this Notice must not exceed 1.2m for more than 50% of the trailer length.
6. A 4.6m high semitrailer that is constructed higher than 4.3m must have an air suspension system with effective dampers fitted to the vehicle.
7. The driver and operator of a 4.6m high semitrailer must comply with all conditions set out in the Schedule for a participating jurisdiction when the vehicle is being used in the jurisdiction to which that Schedule applies.

Peter Austin

*Director, Policy Implementation*

**National Heavy Vehicle Regulator**

**Schedule 2: New South Wales**

1. **Application**

This Schedule applies in New South Wales.

1. **Conditions - Stated areas or routes**
2. A combination consisting of a prime mover and a 4.6m high semitrailer may use the routes and areas published in “*Restricted Access Vehicle maps and lists”* for New South Wales.
3. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer may only use a route described in 1) if the route is also an approved B-double route as set out in the National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation Notice.

*Note: This means the route must be approved for use by both 4.6m high semitrailers and B-doubles.*

1. A road train that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer may only use a route described in 1) if the route is also an approved road train route as set out in the NSW Schedule of the National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation Notice.

*Note: This means the route must be approved for use by both 4.6m high semitrailers and road trains.*

1. **Conditions - General**
2. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer must comply with any relevant conditions set out in the *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation Notice*.
3. A road train that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer trailer must comply with any relevant conditions set out in the *National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation Notice*.

**Schedule 3: Queensland**

1. **Application**

This Schedule applies in Queensland.

1. **Conditions - Stated areas or routes**
2. A combination consisting of a prime mover and a 4.6m high semitrailer may use all roads in Queensland except where there is insufficient height clearance for the combination to pass without striking or damaging any road infrastructure.

*Note: The driver of the 4.6m high semitrailer must assess the suitability of a road prior to operating the vehicle on that road. The roads used must be continually monitored to ensure sufficient clearance for the vehicle exists.*

1. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer may only use a route described in 1) if the route is also approved in the National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation Notice.

*Note: This means the route must be approved for use by both 4.6m high semitrailers and B-doubles.*

1. **Conditions - General**
2. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer must comply with any relevant conditions set out in the B-double notice.
3. Any load carried under this Notice must be loaded in a way that maximizes continuous contact the lowest deck of the trailer.
4. A 4.6m high semitrailer cannot be used as a component of a road train.

*Note: Under the Heavy Vehicle National Law, a road train includes a B-triple*

**Schedule 4: South Australia**

1. **Conditions - Stated areas or routes**
2. A combination consisting of a prime mover and 4.6m high semitrailer (semitrailer combination) may use all roads in South Australia.
3. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer may only use a route approved in the National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle B-double Authorisation Notice.
4. A road train that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer trailer may only use a route approved in the National Class 2 Heavy Vehicle Road Train Authorisation Notice (the Road Train Notice).
5. **Conditions - General**
6. In addition to complying with the requirements of this Schedule, a B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer must comply with the B-double notice.
7. In addition to complying with the requirements of this Schedule, a road train that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer trailer must comply with the road train notice.
8. Before starting the journey, the driver or operator must;
   * + 1. must comply with the specified route, area and structure restrictions published in the *Consolidated Table of Limited Access Locations in South Australia* published on the ‘Approved Areas or Routes’ section of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport website; and
       2. may be required to consult and obtain consent from third party entities who manage utilities which may be impacted by over height vehicles.

*Note : Some routes in the Adelaide Metropolitan Area have height restrictions less than 4.3m.*

*Contact details for SAPN, Telstra and Optus are available on the NHVR website.*

**Schedule 5: Victoria**

1. **Application**

This Schedule applies in Victoria.

1. **Conditions - Stated areas or routes**
2. A combination consisting of a prime mover and a 4.6m high semitrailer may use all roads in Victoria.
3. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer may only use a route approved in the Victorian Schedule of the National Class 2 B-Double Authorisation Notice.
4. A road train that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer trailer may only use a route approved in the Victorian Schedule of the National Class 2 Road Train Authorisation Notice.
5. **Conditions - General**
6. A B-double that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer must comply with any relevant conditions set out in the National Class 2 B-Double Authorisation Notice.
7. A road train that includes a 4.6m high semitrailer trailer must comply with any relevant conditions set out in the National Class 2 Road Train Authorisation Notice.