



SUBJECT: Amendment Additional Axle Weight Allowances for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueled Trucks or Truck Tractors

Managers, Victoria	Passenger Transportation Board	Commercial Transport Insp.
Regional CVSE Managers	Passenger Transportation Branch	(Inspection Stations)
Area Vehicle Inspectors	Carrier Safety Inspectors	ICBC
Deputy Director, CVSE	Government Agents	Supt of Motor Vehicles
ADM, Highways Department	Law Enforcement Agencies	Trucking Industry

PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR

To advise industry, staff, and the general public about the additional weight tolerance to compensate for the heavier fuel tanks used by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) or Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueled trucks and buses.

IMPLEMENTATION

The weight allowance is only permitted on the steering axle and drive axle group to a combined maximum weight allowance of 1,500kg. The overall Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) for the vehicle or combination is also increased accordingly. The maximum GVW can only exceed 63,500kg on an approved 72-, 80- and 85-tonne routes. See Chapter 6 of the Commercial Transport Procedures Manual.

Qualifying vehicles must not exceed the original equipment manufacturers (OEM's) stated maximum Gross Axle Weight Rating, Gross Vehicle Weight Rating, or 100 kg/cm of tire width.

The allowance applies to trucks, truck tractors, semi-trailer combinations, truck and pony/full trailer combinations and buses that are fueled by LNG or CNG.

With the exception of the steering axle weight, seasonal road restrictions continue to apply. The maximum allowable GVW must be reduced accordingly.

BACKGROUND

LNG and CNG are an abundant, clean and environmentally friendly fuel with less emission than diesel fuel, motive fuel for heavy duty trucks, truck tractors and buses. To encourage wide spread use of this new fuel type, the Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) is providing additional axle weight allowances to counterbalance the added weight of the LNG or CNG equipment installed on the LNG or CNG fueled truck, truck tractor or bus.

This allowance is authorized by the Director of CVSE under section 7.02(1) of the Commercial Transport Regulations.

For additional information, please contact Jeff Monty, Manager, Commercial Transport, CVSE, telephone: (250) 953-4017 or email: Jeff.Monty@gov.bc.ca.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Murray'.

Brian Murray
Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure