

BULLETIN: 42/2022

ENDING TRUCK CURFEW EXEMPTIONS

As part of a transition to COVID normal settings, the Victorian Government has reinstated truck curfews from 12am Saturday 13 August 2022.

The suspension of truck curfews had made it easier for the delivery of essential household goods to supermarkets and pharmacies to meet demand and accommodate challenges in the supply chain.

After being consulted by DoT, DJPR and DELWP, the supermarket and transport industry representatives understand that the Ministerial Order that suspended “No Truck” and “Loading Zone” signs for vehicles transporting food and personal hygiene products will not be extended.

The prevalence of the ongoing Omicron COVID-19 variant, coupled with the winter flu season, continues to strain workforce capacity across all elements of the supply chain.

This has meant that trucks are taking longer to load and unload, creating a need to operate outside normal hours to keep supermarket shelves stocked.

Greater flexibility is still required in scheduling driver deliveries to meet what is expected to be a very high demand period, resulting in deliveries outside of normal operating hours.

The Government will assess a suite of options to support industry including offering ongoing greater flexibility in scheduling driver deliveries.

We will continue working with local councils, communities and industry to ensure that truck curfews are enforced on local roads.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is continuing to track and enforce compliance in curfew areas, with officers using their discretion in relation to heavy vehicles parked near distribution centres and supermarkets.