



**SUBJECT: Hydro Vac Trucks with Front Mounted Hose Reels to Operate Under General Authorization**

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

**PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR**

To advise that letters of authorization and permit fees are no longer required to operate the front mounted hose reels.

**BACKGROUND**

Front-mounted hose reels are not specifically addressed in the Commercial Transport Regulations. They are not included in the definition of “permanently mounted equipment”, and are not entitled to the allowance for additional weight for PME. Other provisions for front projection for devices that do not carry cargo<sup>1</sup> are insufficient for the dimensions of many front-mounted hose reels in their unaltered, factory-released state.

**AUTHORIZATION**

To maintain pace with vehicle technologies and equipment additions that may not have been considered when legislation was enacted or revised, by general authority<sup>2</sup>, these vehicles may operate without permits at legal weights with a front projection of up to 1 meter from the front bumper.



The driver’s clear sightlines to the highway must not be unduly obstructed by the hose reel, and the design and attachment of the hose reel must conform to the original manufacturer’s specifications, and not negatively impact road safety.

<sup>1</sup> Commercial Transport Regulations, section 7.08(2)(c)  
<sup>2</sup> Commercial Transport Regulations, section 7.02(1)

To operate without permit under this general authorization, the overall length of the truck with hose reel must not exceed 13.5 m.

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