

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation

Minister for Ports and Freight

Minister for Local Government

Minister for Suburban Development



Monday, 1 August 2022

NEW MAPS RELEASED FOR HEAVY VEHICLE INDUSTRY

The Andrews Labor Government is making it easier for the heavy vehicle industry to move around the state.

Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne today released eight pre-approved maps – which will give mobile crane operators information about where they can travel on the road network.

The maps – which are an Australian first – are for mobile cranes with 6 to 9-axes and will ensure they can continue delivering projects without the need for a bridge assessment.

The maps will also assist operators with direct access from the ports of Portland, Geelong and Melbourne to a number of depots identified by the industry and several wind farm locations in western Victoria.

The network has been expanded to include key corridors such as the Hamilton, Calder and Glenelg Highways, further facilitating windfarm development in and around those corridors.

Operators will still need to apply for access permits for these cranes but will no longer need individual route assessments on the published routes.

The Labor Government has worked closely with the Victorian crane industry, including the Crane Industry Council of Australia to develop these new pre-approved route maps.

Publication of the mobile crane maps has been a priority of the Heavy Vehicle Permit Reform Roadmap, funded under the Labor Government's *Regulatory Reform Incentive Fund*.

To access the new maps visit: <https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/business-and-industry/heavy-vehicle-industry/heavy-vehicle-map-networks-in-victoria/cl1-spv-osom>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne

"We're supporting our heavy vehicle industry and improving efficiency for our mobile crane operators through the release of these pre-approved maps."

"These maps will give operators information about where they can travel, as well as assist operators with direct access from our ports to depots."

Quote attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll

"Mobile crane operators will benefit most from the release of these new maps – which will make it easier for them to travel across the road network and ensure they can continue delivering key projects across the state."

Quote attributable to Minister for Regulatory Reform Danny Pearson

"We know that easy access for crane operators is critical to supporting our construction industry – and this initiative means we can get more operators onto building sites sooner."