



11 May 2026

Impacts of Heavy Vehicle Reform – Interim Report  
Productivity Commission

By email: [ncp@pc.gov.au](mailto:ncp@pc.gov.au)

Dear Commissioners

### **NHVR SUBMISSION: IMPACTS OF HEAVY VEHICLE REFORM – INTERIM REPORT**

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Productivity Commission’s interim report into the impacts of heavy vehicle reform. We welcome the interim report and support its overall direction, including its draft findings and recommendations.

The interim report appropriately recognises the importance of access reform, improved consistency in access decision-making, and nationally coordinated implementation to improve productivity, safety and emissions outcomes across the heavy vehicle sector. The NHVR also supports the Commission’s continued focus on the key reform areas, including increasing heavy vehicle road access, accelerating the National Automated Access System (NAAS), addressing barriers to heavy zero emissions vehicle uptake, and progressing driver capability reforms.

The NHVR agrees that the largest productivity benefits are likely to arise from reforms that increase access to the road network for high productivity vehicles, particularly Performance Based Standards (PBS) vehicles, and that reforms which move the system towards greater as-of-right access is a worthy pursuit.

As outlined in the NHVR’s original submission, the NHVR remains willing to provide data, technical input and further analysis separately to the Commission, outside the formal submission process, at the Commission’s request. Recent ongoing engagement between the Commission and the NHVR has been agile and constructive, and the NHVR would welcome that continuing as the Commission progresses its final report.

The NHVR also notes that some matters raised in the interim report sit outside the NHVR’s formal regulatory remit, or are primarily matters for jurisdictions, local government, or other agencies. This includes, for example, policy settings relating to curfews, acceptable infrastructure limits for larger or heavier vehicles, and driver licensing and training arrangements. The NHVR nevertheless offers operational insights where useful, particularly where these matters interact with access, productivity, safety and implementation outcomes across the heavy vehicle system.

Attached is a detailed response to both the information requests contained in the interim report, and additional information requested via email on 28 April 2026.

For further detail regarding this submission, please contact Brayden Soo, Manager, Freight and Supply Chains. Mr Soo will also be the primary contact for any follow-up queries, data provision or analytical support should the Commission require further information to inform its assessment.

Yours sincerely

**Chief Executive Officer**

Enc (1) – NHVR Response – Impacts of Heavy Vehicle Reform – Interim Report