

Enquiries to: Office of the Chief Health Officer

and Deputy Director-General,

Queensland Health

File Ref: C-ECTF-20/13688-034

Queensland Health

Mr Neil Scales
Director-General
Department of Transport and Main Roads

Email: director-general@tmr.gov.au

Dear Mr Scales

Approval for *freight or logistics operators* with perishable goods or livestock to move across the border while waiting for a 7 day COVID-19 test result – *Border restrictions Direction (No. 31)* and Qld Freight Protocol

I, Dr Jeannette Young, Chief Health Officer, have provided an exemption for freight or logistics operators transporting perishable goods or livestock as an exempt class of persons under *Border restrictions Directions (No. 31)* or its successors who are entering Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot.

This exemption is valid until 1 am on Monday 9 August 2021 unless amended or revoked.

- 1. In this class exemption:
- (a) **affected area** has the same meaning as the Qld Freight Protocol;
- (b) **freight or logistics operator** has the same meaning as in the Border Restrictions Direction (No. 31) or its successor;
- (c) perishable goods means those likely to spoil, decay or become unsafe to use if not kept refrigerated. Examples of goods that must be kept refrigerated for safety include medicines, vaccinations, medical supplies, meat, poultry, fish, dairy products, and all cooked or prepared food;
- (d) **Queensland Border Declaration Pass** has the same meaning as in the *Border Restrictions Direction (No. 31)* or its successor;
- (e) **Queensland Travel Declaration** has the same meaning as in the *Queensland Travel Declaration Direction (No. 4)* or its successor;
- (f) **QId Freight Protocol** means the Operational protocol for freight movements entering Queensland approved by the Chief Health Officer as amended from time to time.
- A freight or logistics operator entering Queensland is exempt from the requirement of the Qld Freight Protocol to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result received within the 7 days prior to entering Queensland, subject to meeting the following conditions:
- (a) the operator is delivering *perishable goods* or livestock;
- (b) the operator must not have left the confines of their vehicle an *affected area* in the 14 days before entering Queensland;
- (c) the operator must carry a copy of this class exemption, in paper or electronic form, at all times.

- 3. The *freight or logistics operator* must leave Queensland as soon as they have delivered the *perishable goods* or livestock, if it is safe to do so. An operator who is unable to safely leave Queensland must get a test as soon as reasonably possible after completing the delivery and follow the other requirements of the *Qld Freight Protocol*.
- 4. **Freight or logistics operators** who meet the requirement in paragraph 2 are exempt from the requirement to obtain a Queensland Border Declaration Pass or Queensland Travel Declaration.
- 5. Upon entry to Queensland, *freight or logistics operators* must strictly comply with all other requirements of the Border Restrictions Direction (No. 31) or successors and the *Qld Freight Protocol* and all relevant Public Health Directions.

This exemption has been provided based on the Public Health Directions and COVID-19 hotspot declarations in place at the time of approval. It is the responsibility of *freight or logistics operators* to review the Public Health Directions and hotspot declarations at the time of entry to Queensland to determine if they are subject to any amended requirements or obligations.

I seek your assistance in communicating this class exemption to your stakeholders including the requirement to obtain a Queensland Entry Pass and instructions on how to apply.

Dr Jeannette Young PSM

Queensland Chief Health Officer Deputy Director-General

Luke Yeng

Queensland Health

1 August 2020