

Over-Dimensional Moves

Purpose

The roadway system is designed to accommodate vehicles of certain standard sizes and dimensions. As a result, restrictions are applied for oversized moves greater than 2.6 metres in width, or 4.15 metres in height or 23 metres (except 25 metres for 'B' Train and Pole trailers) in length. Measurements are to be taken at the widest part of the load (including eaves, top of hull, etc.).

Procedure(s)

Special over-dimensional move permits are issued for indivisible loads only. Loads are considered indivisible if:

- for width, the load does not consist of articles placed side by side or cross-wise,
- for height, the load does not consist of articles placed on top of one another, and
- for length, the load does not consist of articles placed one behind the other.

The load must be placed upon the vehicle in such a way that the load exceeds the dimension limit to the least degree.

Administration of over-dimensional moves is done by staff at Service Nova Scotia. Department staff (Area Managers) are normally involved only for exceptional moves.

Summary Table: Over-Height Move Conditions:

HEIGHT		CONDITIONS APPLICABLE	TYPE OF PERMIT
exceeding	up to and including		
4.15m (13.6 ft)	4.3m (14 ft)	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	Annual or Trip
4.3m (14 ft)	4.8m (15.75 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 20, 21, 22	Trip Permit Only
4.8m + (15.75 ft +)		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 20, 21, 22, 100, 115	Trip Permit Only

Summary Table: Over-Width Move Conditions:

WIDTH		CONDITIONS APPLICABLE	TYPE OF PERMIT
exceeding	up to		
2.6m (8.5 ft)	2.75m (9 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Annual or Trip
2.75m (9 ft)	3.05m (10 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Annual or Trip
3.05m (10 ft)	3.7m (12 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 23, 24, 25	Annual or Trip
3.7m (12 ft)	4.3m (14 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25	Annual or Trip
4.3m (14 ft)	5.5m (18 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 104	Trip Permit Only
5.5m + (18 ft. +)		1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 22, 23, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, plus other applicable conditions from Section 2 "Exceptional Moves Conditions"	Trip Permit Only

Summary Table: Over-Length Move Conditions:

LENGTH		CONDITIONS APPLICABLE	TYPE OF PERMIT
exceeding	up to and including		
23m (75 ft)	25m (82 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 16	Annual
25m (82 ft)	30m (100 ft)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19, 23	Trip Permit Only
30m (100 ft)	40m (130 ft)	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 23, 100, 109, 112, 116	Trip Permit Only
40m + (130 ft +)		1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 23, 100, 109, 112, 114*	Trip Permit Only

*Note: (114) Depending on circumstances surrounding the move, TPW may require the mover to obtain police/RMV escort for a portion or all of the moving route.

Summary Table: Over-Hang Move Conditions:

OVER HANGS		CONDITIONS APPLICABLE	TYPE OF PERMIT
front	rear		
> 1m		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 18	Annual or Trip
	> 2m to 3m	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13	Annual or Trip
	> 3m to 5m	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 19, 23	Annual or Trip
	> 5m	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 19, 23	Trip Permit Only

1 General Conditions - Special Move Permits

1. A valid permit, obtained from Service Nova Scotia must be in the possession of the driver of the vehicle and is subject to revocation at any time.
2. For roads that are not owned by the Department of Transportation and Public Works, prior to the move, the mover must contact the Municipality who owns the road.
3. The vehicle is not permitted on any highway during adverse road and weather conditions, or when visibility is reduced as to create a hazard.
4. A following distance of 600 metres must be maintained when a special move permitted vehicle is preceded by another special move permitted vehicle.
5. The vehicle must observe traffic and must, when traffic begins to accumulate behind the movement, pull off the road and allow traffic to pass.
6. The mover will be held responsible for all damages caused as a result of the moving of the special move permitted vehicle.
7. If the view to the rear is obstructed or interfered with by a trailer (either loaded or unloaded) attached to the vehicle, or by the loading of the vehicle, an outside rear vision mirror must be attached to each side of the vehicle to afford the driver a clear view to the rear of at least 61 metres.
8. The vehicle is not permitted on any highway on any Sunday.
9. The vehicle must display an amber warning light on the top of the towing vehicle visible for a distance of 150 metres.
10. The vehicle must display red fluorescent flags on the extremities of the load, not less than 45 centimetres square, visible to the front and rear for a distance of 150 metres.

11. The vehicle must move during daylight hours.
12. The vehicle must display 'D Over-dimensional Load' signs (D-sign), front and rear, in contrasting colors visible from a distance of 120 metres, conforming to the size and specifications given in Appendix "A" (Specification for Over-dimensional Load Sign).
13. D-signs must not be displayed unless the vehicle is actually operating in a special permitted situation.
14. The vehicle is not permitted on any highway after 3:00 p.m. on Fridays, on any Saturday, or any Sunday, or any public holiday.
15. When being moved on a highway, other than 100 Series, the vehicle must be preceded by a pilot vehicle displaying D-signs front and rear, and an amber warning light on top of the vehicle visible for a distance of 150 metres.
16. The vehicle is not permitted on any highway between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
17. The vehicle must be preceded by a pilot vehicle, unless being moved on a divided highway at which time the pilot vehicle will revert to the rear, displaying D-signs front and rear, and an amber warning light on top of the pilot vehicle visible for a distance of 150 metres.
18. The extension of the vehicle and/or load must display along its sides retro-reflective tape as specified in Appendix "B".
19. The vehicle must be followed by a pilot vehicle displaying D-signs front and rear, and an amber warning light on top of the pilot vehicle visible for a distance of 150 metres.
20. The mover must contact Nova Scotia Power (NSP), MTT and local cable companies prior to the move.
21. The vehicle must stop before entering all underpasses; safe clearance must be confirmed before proceeding at creep speed.
22. If crossing the Canso Causeway, the mover must contact the RCMP to determine the time of the move.
23. Pilot vehicle and laden vehicle drivers must be in radio contact at all times during the move. Cellular phones are not acceptable.
24. If the move takes place after daylight hours, pilot vehicles, displaying D-signs front and rear and an amber warning light on top of the pilot vehicle visible for a distance 150 metres, are required to precede and follow the move.
25. If the move takes place after daylight hours, load must be equipped at the width extremities with flashing amber lights visible for a distance of 150 metres to the front, outside and rear.

2 Exceptional Moves Conditions

The following “**Exceptional Moves**” conditions are to be attached to all “Special Move Permits” when the width exceeds 5.5 metres, the length exceeds 30 metres or the height exceeds 4.8 metres. These conditions are in addition to, and may supercede, the conditions noted on the Special Move Form. Applicants to allow seven (7) working days for exceptional move application processing and 10 working days for moves for widths of 7.9 metres or greater.

Moves for widths of 7.9 metres (26 ft) or greater must be approved by the District Director for each district affected by the move.

Moves wider than 9.1 metres (30 ft) are not permitted on any roads. Permits for moves greater than 40 metres in length must be approved by appropriate TPW staff.

100. For roads that are not owned by the Department of Transportation and Public Works, prior to the move, the mover must obtain approval from the Municipality who owns the road. Written confirmation of the approval must be provided to Service Nova Scotia before the permit will be issued.
101. Prior to the move, the mover is responsible for contacting any Fire Department through whose territory the move is to travel.
102. Prior to the move, the mover is responsible for contacting Emergency Health Services Nova Scotia to notify them a special permitted move will be made.
103. The routing for each move is to be approved. The route is to be listed in order of travel and by road name, with the distance to be travelled along each road. A copy of the route must be attached to the permit and kept with the vehicle at the time of the move.
104. One lane of traffic is to be kept open when moving on 100 Series highways. Bridges are generally not wide enough to allow one lane to stay open, therefore, moves must wait until there is a sufficient break in traffic to cross the bridge. **For the Seal Island Bridge, the Canso Causeway, or other locations where it is required to close the road for a short period of time, an RCMP escort or full traffic control as per the NS Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual is required.**
105. The mover must be insured for \$2,000,000.00 with the Crown named as co-holder of the policy.

106. When required, a scout vehicle is to be a sufficient distance ahead of the move, and in radio contact, to identify potential problems and allow the load to be pulled over as needed. A scout vehicle is required for moves exceeding:
 - I. 7.9 metres in width on all divided highways
 - II. 6.7 metres in width on non-divided controlled access highways
 - III. 5.5 metres on all other highways.
107. The mover is to predetermine locations to pull over.
108. Stopping of special permitted vehicle is not allowed where a portion of the roadway would be obstructed.
109. Moves are to be made between 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. only (unless governed by #110).
110. Moves exceeding 7.9 metres in width must be made from 3:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Sundays only. Moves exceeding 5.5 metres in width can be made from 3:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Sundays only (modification to general condition #14).
111. Pilot vehicles, displaying D-signs front and rear and an amber warning light on top of the pilot vehicle visible for a distance of 150 metres, are required to precede and follow moves on all but divided highways. On divided highways, a pilot vehicle is to follow the move.
112. Pilot vehicles, displaying D-signs front and rear and an amber warning light on top of the pilot vehicle visible for a distance of 150 metres, are required to precede and follow the move.
113. A complete compliment of signs, cones and flares is to be carried at all times during a move, to provide sufficient warning in the event of a breakdown.
114. Written confirmation from the escorting party (police/RMV) must be received prior to the release of the permit. Escort must be provided by an RCMP or Municipal police officer in a marked vehicle or by a Registry of Motor Vehicles Inspector in a marked vehicle. Any and all costs associated with provision of the escort are to be incurred by the movers. See following table:

	WIDTH		
	> 5.5m - 6.7m (18ft - 22ft)	> 6.7m - 7.9m (22ft - 26ft)	> 7.9m - 9.1m (26ft - 30ft)
Divided Highways	N/A	N/A	Scout vehicle required
Undivided Controlled Access Highways	N/A	Scout vehicle required	Permitted only with police/RMV escort
Other Highways	Scout vehicle required	Road Closure or police/RMV escort required, detour route required	Road Closure or police/RMV escort required, detour route required

115. Moves in excess of 4.8 metres in height require written sign off from NSP, MTT and the applicable cable companies as part of the permit application prior to issuance of the permit.
116. Mover must notify RCMP and/or local police agency with schedule and timing of move.
117. When the move takes place after daylight hours, load must be equipped on the rear left and rear right with flashing amber lights visible for a distance of 150 metres.
118. **Over-height loads that are also over-width are required to move at night unless otherwise noted by the Area Manager.** Over-width moves that exceed 4.8 metres in height are not allowed on divided highways if more than 7.9 metres wide, or on undivided controlled access highways if more than 6.7 metres wide or on other highways if over 5.5 metres wide except as outlined in the following:
 On non-controlled access highways, moves which are both over-width (greater than 5.5 metres) and over-height (greater than 4.8 metres) may be allowed when the total move is 7.5 kms. or less. Full traffic control is required for each leg of the move (as per Section 4 - Road Closures) and there must be sufficient time between legs to remove traffic backlogs. There must also be a detour around each leg (as per Section 5 - Detours).

For moves involving boats which have a hull width greater than 5.5 metres and are moved locally, the Area Manager, depending on the conditions surrounding the move, may waive the requirement for a police/RMV escort and determine the timing of the move.

All of these are general rules; stricter requirements may be imposed by the Area Manager.

Any requested movements of oversize non-divisible loads which fall outside this procedure may be taken under consideration only under exceptional circumstances. In these cases, approval MUST come from the Executive Director Maintenance & Operations.

In cases where the Department indicates to an applicant that it may be willing to consider an oversized move request which falls outside the maximum limits outlined in this policy, and before a formal review is undertaken, a complete and fully detailed Traffic Management and Physical Move Plan must be submitted by the applicant to the Department. The Department may require that the applicant provide further clarification and or details regarding this plan. Any and all costs associated with the preparation of the Traffic Management and Physical Move Plan and its review will be at the applicants expense. The applicant must be cautioned that agreement by the Department to review a Traffic Management and Physical Move Plan does not imply in any way that the move will be permitted.

Only after such a review is completed will a final decision be made on issuing a permit.

3 Additional Conditions which may also be specified for any move

- 200. Spacing of between 100 metres to 500 metres between pilot vehicles and the laden vehicle must be maintained while moving along highways.
- 201. A police escort or traffic control as per the NS Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual is required at intersections where the load is involved in turning movements that require traffic to be stopped.

4 Road Closures

Full road closure is required as per the NS Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual. The maximum length of a road closure is 3 kms. as per the NS Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual. Moves greater than 3 kms. must be done in a series of "legs" each of which conforms with the above.

5 Detours

A detour with a maximum length of 40 kms. must be available around the section of road to be closed.

Accountability

Service Nova Scotia is responsible for the issuing of permits. TPW, through the Vehicle Compliance Division, is responsible for enforcement. Area Managers are responsible to review over-width moves in excess of 5.5 metres and under 5.5 metres if requested by administrative staff, as well as over-height moves in excess of 4.8 metres. The Manager Highway Maintenance & Operations is responsible to review over-length moves in excess of 30 metres.

Monitoring

This procedure is to be monitored by the Director of Driver and Vehicle Safety, Service Nova Scotia, in conjunction with the TPW District Directors.

References

Canadian General Standards Board Specifications 62-GP-11M
Special Moves Permit form
Nova Scotia Workplace Traffic Control Manual

Appendices

Appendix A - *Specification for Over-dimensional Load Sign*
Appendix B - *Specification for Retro-reflective Tape*

Enquiries

Manager Transportation Policy
or
Highway Maintenance & Operations

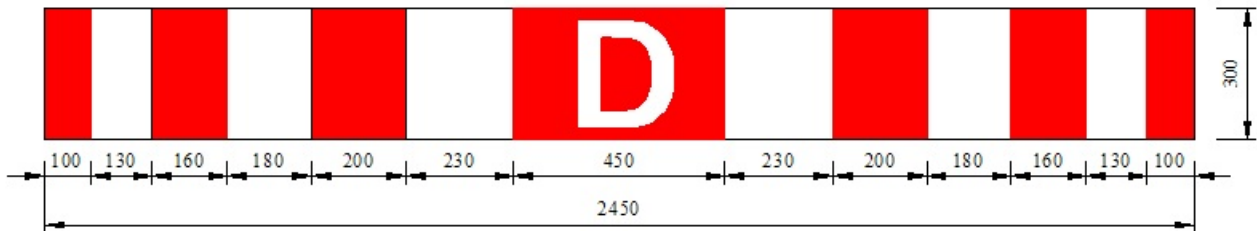
Approved by (Executive/Director): Bruce Fitzner, EDMO
Approval date: 07-05-23
Effective date: 07-05-28

Transportation & Public Works
Policies and Procedures Manual
Revision date: 07-05-22

APPENDIX "A"

Specification for Over-dimensional Load Sign:

1. General Description: the sign consists of red vertical stripes on a white background, having a white letter D in the center of the sign. The layout is to conform to the drawing below.
2. Dimension: 300 mm. high and 2450 mm. long.
3. Material: The sign is made of ½" (or metric equivalent) GIS Douglas Fir plywood with a medium density overlay. If the medium density overlay is not used the plywood must be painted with two (2) good coats of exterior enamel. The paint or overlay is to ensure the plywood surface is properly sealed. The plywood is then covered, on the side which was sealed, with white reflective sheeting with a minimum Level II reflectance (as per Canadian General Standards Board Specification 62-GP-11M). The sign message is then silk-screened on the sheeting using #712 Stop Sign Red (3M-Corp) paint or equivalent.



All Dimensions are in mm

APPENDIX “B”

Specification for Retro-reflective Tape:

1. Retro-reflective tape must meet Federal/Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 108 S5.7.
2. The tape must be a width not less than 50 mm (Grade DOT-C2).
3. The tape must be applied on both sides of the extension, facing sideward.
4. The tape must start and end as close to the front and rear of the extension as possible.