



2010

Subject: Proposed Mega Load Movement

As you may be aware, the Georgia Department of Transportation hereby known as DEPARTMENT, routinely issues permits for vehicles weighing up to 180,000 pounds if the truck-trailer configurations meet criteria set forth by the DEPARTMENT and the bridges crossed are HS 20 designed. The DEPARTMENT also regularly issues permits for specialized west coast type rigs consisting of tractor, jeep, trailer and booster upon close evaluation of the proposed route, condition of bridge structures and analysis of bridges based on axle spacings and weights submitted in the application. Furthermore, it is DEPARTMENT policy to exhaust all other available forms of transportation including the use of rail or navigational waterway in order to minimize detrimental effects on the State's infrastructure as well adverse impact to the traveling public.

When movement warrants special attention beyond that of typical permitted loads moved in Georgia. The DEPARTMENT will require a field survey of the proposed route(s) to ensure that the loaded vehicles can negotiate continuous travel and that there are no obstructions which would interrupt this continuous travel. We require inspection of all bridges and bridge culverts that have been identified as borderline passing structures to establish a **baseline condition** for each structure, which will be used to determine if any damage occurs as a result of the movements. The DEPARTMENT will also require a Traffic Control and Movement Plan to ensure a safe and efficient move. The Traffic Control and Movement Plan will incorporate any traffic control procedures for the movement along with the findings of the field survey. The final approved Traffic Control and Movement Plan will be included as part of the permit if a permit is issued.

If all stipulations herein are completed to the satisfaction of the DEPARTMENT, the CARRIER will then be required to provide the DEPARTMENT with a Performance Bond prior to issuance of any permit.

The DEPARTMENT does not have sufficient resources to complete the preceding investigation. The CARRIER shall proceed as follows:

1. The CARRIER shall submit to the Oversize Permit Unit of the DEPARTMENT a (1) Letter of Request, (2) Permit Application and (3) Drawing of the configuration as required for all permits. For example the load can be defined as follows: A Machine Press with width of 18'-7", height of 16'-6", length of 200'-0" and the gross vehicle weight of 579,000 pounds on 31 axles.
2. The CARRIER shall select a consulting firm, hereby known as CONSULTANT, from the DEPARTMENT'S list of pre-qualified bridge inspection firms which can be found:
 - a. On the Web: <http://tomcat2.dot.state.ga.us/cmisis/byclass/49.html>, or
 - b. Georgia Department of Transportation, Office of Consultant Design, One Georgia Center, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30308; Phone: (404) 631-1930; or FAX: (404) 631-1588.

3. The CARRIER shall notify the DEPARTMENT in writing for approval: (1) the name of the CONSULTANT who will perform the investigation, (2) the names of the bridge inspectors to perform the inspections and (3) the names of the engineers reviewing the inspection findings and documents prior to commencing investigation.
4. The CONSULTANT will be required to obtain an encroachment permit from the District Engineer in the respective districts, in order to conduct field work/inspections within the State's Right of Way.
5. The CONSULTANT or representatives of the CARRIER shall perform a Field Survey of the proposed route(s) documenting the following, but not limited to:
 - a. Roadway widths and number of lanes
 - b. Relief points for traffic
 - c. All turns
 - d. All obstructions
 - e. Estimation of travel time and average speed along the route.
6. The CONSULTANT shall develop a Traffic Control and Movement Plan based on Georgia Department of Transportation Traffic Control Standards and the findings in the Field Survey. The final approved Traffic Control and Movement Plan will be included as part of the permit. Prior to any movement a team meeting shall be performed under the direction of the CARRIER for all parties accompanying the movement and discussion of the Traffic Control and Movement Plan. The Traffic Control and Movement Plan shall include but not limited to:
 - a. Emergency contact names and phone numbers for public service officials in each Georgia County along the proposed route, the DEPARTMENT'S Transportation Management Center and other designated District personnel of the DEPARTMENT.
 - b. Timeline for movement which should include the beginning of the movement, location and times for any stops or relief points, bridges which require restrictions or between routes or other milestones along the route and the final destination.
 - c. List of all escorts and where they enter or leave the convoy if not completing the entire movement. Please note that there will be a minimum of two police escorts with blue lights required at all times as well as any additional required in the traffic control plan.
 - d. The traffic control plan shall include use of at least 1 portable message signs, details of any required pacing operations and any other special considerations
 - e. Other traffic restrictions may be required by the DEPARTMENT.

Please note that the DEPARTMENT anticipates that this move will be made between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm; however, the CARRIER may propose a time line in the TCMP for review by the DEPARTMENT.

Each of the contacts shall be notified by the CARRIER at a minimum of 24 hours prior to movement in Georgia if the movement is allowed. Furthermore, the CARRIER shall notify the DEPARTMENT'S Transportation Management Center immediately preceding (one hour or less) any movement in Georgia.

7. The CONSULTANT will perform a complete inspection of all bridges and bridge culverts that have been identified as borderline passing structures prior to the movement of the load. The condition of the structures shall be documented in a PRE-INSPECTION REPORT. All deficiencies found during this inspection shall be *delineated* on the structure, photographed and identified in the report. This

inspection report shall be submitted to the DEPARTMENT for review prior to the first movement. This inspection also establishes a **baseline for the present condition** of the structures to be examined against the POST-INSPECTION to determine if damage has occurred as a result of this movement. The DEPARTMENT will review the PRE-INSPECTION REPORT within 3 business days from the date received.

8. The CONSULTANT will perform bridge load ratings of the superstructure for bridges and bridge culverts along the routes based on measurements taken from the PRE-INSPECTION or from bridge plans. The CARRIER will provide the Special Live load information to the CONSULTANT. The results of the analysis will be included in the PRE-INSPECTION report. The electronic data input and output files shall be submitted along with the pre-inspection report.
9. A profile survey shall be performed 100 feet prior to the centerline of each culvert for 200 feet. The profile shall be established at the center of the proposed load path of travel. Additional elevations at the ends of the culverts must be measured to monitor any movement of the structure. This survey shall be included in the PRE-INSPECTION report.
10. The CONSULTANT and/or the CARRIER shall submit the Field Survey and Traffic Control and Movement Plan to the DEPARTMENT for review. If the DEPARTMENT determines that the Field Survey and Traffic Control and Movement Plan are adequate and the bridges and bridge culverts are suitable to support the loaded vehicles, then the CARRIER will be advised to proceed as follows.
11. The CARRIER will complete a Performance Bond form provided by the DEPARTMENT and return this form to this office by mail as well as by FAX. The DEPARTMENT will issue the permit(s) upon receipt of the original performance bond with appropriate signatures if all previous conditions are satisfied.
12. The CONSULTANT will perform a complete inspection of the bridges and bridge culverts immediately following the crossing of the structures by the loaded vehicle (beginning the day that the LOAD is moved and during daylight hours). The POST-INSPECTIONS will be conducted for each load. The condition of the structure shall be documented in a POST-INSPECTION REPORT. Any change in the condition of the structure from the PRE-INSPECTION REPORT shall be *delineated* on the structure, photographed and documented in this report. If changes are observed, the CONSULTANT shall immediately notify the DEPARTMENT. The POST-INSPECTION report shall be submitted to the DEPARTMENT *within 3 days from the completion of the movement*. However, subsequent permits will not be issued until the POST-INSPECTION report has been submitted and its findings reviewed by the DEPARTMENT.
13. A profile survey shall be performed at each bridge culvert and at each survey point from the previous survey 2 weeks (14 days) after the day of the movement. This post survey shall be submitted to the DEPARTMENT.
14. The PRE- and POST-INSPECTION REPORTS shall include but are not limited to: (1) Bridge Inspector, (2) Date and time inspection begins, (3) Date and time inspection completed, (4) detailed description of all structural deficiencies/defects, (5) any necessary photographs, (6) an assessment of the effect of the loaded vehicles based on the two inspections and (7) stamp by a Professional Engineer who is registered in the State of Georgia and was in charge of the work.

15. Existing bridge information may be obtained by accessing the Public Viewer in Room 403 of the Bridge Maintenance Office, 935 E. Confederate Ave., Building 24, Atlanta, Georgia, 30316.

If you have any questions or comments please call Don Johnson or Kevin Schwartz at (404) 635-8185.