



Caltrans Proposal Response

Subject: Fixed Loads Inspections
Proposal Date: January 20, 2008 (Amended)
Response Date: August 28, 2008
Policy: CTPAC-WG12-012605-001 (Amended January 20, 2008)

I. ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR INSPECTION OF LEGAL WEIGHT FIXED LOAD.

Industry Proposed Revision:

This proposal seeks to revise Section 303 of the Transportation Permits Manual (TPM) in order to eliminate the inspection requirement for legal weight fixed loads. The specific changes to Section 303, first paragraph, are as follows:

*Vehicle inspections are performed to record data and evaluate the acceptability of extralegal vehicles. A record is provided for the convenience of the owner and used by the Department when appropriate on permit application. Inspections will be required on all four-axles power units, fixed-load vehicles, heavy haul combinations routed as nine axles or more, vehicles with mechanical distribution systems; and vehicle combinations where there is reason to believe a weight distribution problem or a dimensional inconsistency exists. Any change in ownership of a fixed-load vehicle will require re-inspection. **When all axles and gross weight are legal weight, fixed loads do not require inspection reports.***

The Department's Response:

The proposal to eliminate inspections on Fixed- Weight Legal Loads would be as beneficial to the Department as to industry. The Department will work with you to see if that can come about. At present, however, our experience is that loads have been customized to fit a certain task and adjustments are frequently needed to be made to comply with the California laws. Our inspectors will collect data on these loads for the following year and then meet again with industry representatives to review the findings. In addition, the Department will continue to work to make the inspection process as efficient as possible.