STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

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Hurricane Sandy Emergency Declaration
Waiver of Vehicle Weight and Size Restrictions

Due to the impact of Hurricane Sandy on the State of Rhode Island, Governor Lincoln D. Chafee declared a state of disaster emergency on October 28, 2012.

In response to this emergency, the Director of the Department of Transportation has authorized a temporary waiver of vehicle size restrictions for the purpose of ensuring that essential emergency relief supplies, equipment and services reach the impacted areas. This waiver applies only to vehicles that are properly registered and are responding to the emergency, including vehicles transporting relief supplies and equipment, utility company vehicles, tree service vehicles and vehicles used by relief agencies. This waiver will remain in effect until further notice and shall be subject to the following conditions.

1) The truck shall be limited to a minimum overall length of fifty-five feet (55'), a maximum overall length of eighty feet (80'), and a maximum width of twelve feet four inches (12' 4");
2) For 5 or less axles, the load shall be limited to one hundred four thousand-eight hundred pounds (104,800 lbs). For 6 axles, the load shall be limited to one hundred thirty thousand pounds (130,000 lbs.). For all truck configurations the individual axle weights shall not exceed twenty-five thousand pounds (25,000 lbs.);
3) The truck shall obey all posting restrictions as shown on the Rhode Island Department of Transportation website: (http://www.dot.ri.gov/documents/bridges/2012%2010.1%20Posted%20Bridges.pdf);
4) The operator must ensure that the truck can safely clear all structures along the selected route and the appropriate escort vehicles are provided when required. If the operator is uncertain if the load can safely clear their route then a route survey must be conducted;
5) The operator accepts all liability for any damage incurred in the movement of these vehicles across the State highway system;
6) The operator shall not move these loads during peak hour traffic (6:00AM-10:00AM & 3:00PM-7:00 PM);
7) These conditions are applicable to I-95, however, should the operator desire to use I-295 then the operator shall check the Rhode Island Department of Transportation website for the latest roadway and traffic restrictions to ensure the truck can safely pass through construction work zones (http://www.dot.ri.gov).

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