



SUBJECT: Date Extension & Approval Validity- Extraordinary Load Approvals

Managers, Victoria
Regional CVSE Managers
Area Vehicle Inspectors
Deputy Director, CVSE
ADM, Highways Department

Passenger Transportation Board
Trucking Industry
Carrier Safety Inspectors
Government Agents
Law Enforcement Agencies

Commercial Transport Insp.
(Inspection Stations)
ICBC

PURPOSE OF CIRCULAR

Circular informs staff, industry partners, and interested parties of two coordinated changes:

1. Introduction of new limits on date extensions for extraordinary load approvals.
2. Implementation of standardized validity for extraordinary load approvals.

These changes aim to improve processing efficiency, maintain policy alignment, and reduce administrative pressures created by historical backlogs.

BACKGROUND

Extraordinary Load approvals historically allowed unlimited extensions, contributing to significant backlogs. Many requests do not progress to permits and often require additional review due to outdated equipment or missing documentation.

The volume of extraordinary load approval requests has increased substantially in recent years, further straining processing timelines. Standardizing extension limits and approval validity supports more predictable planning for industry while reducing repeat applications and administrative workload.

VALIDITY PERIOD FOR EXTRAORDINARY LOAD APPROVALS

New approvals (effective March 2, 2026)

All Extraordinary Load Approvals issued on or after March 2nd, 2026, will have a one-year validity period from the date of issuance.

Existing Approvals

Renewals can be requested up to one (1) month in advance of their expiry.

Approvals issued before March 2nd, 2026, will retain their current validity and will not be automatically extended. Carriers may apply for new approvals upon expiry, at which point the one-year validity will apply.

MAXIMUM EXTENSION PERIOD FOR APPLICATIONS

- Extraordinary load approvals and applications will only be extended up to three (3) years of the original request. New applications will be required after that

EXPIRED APPLICATIONS

- Approvals expired more than one (1) year cannot be extended; a new application is required.

Rationale for these measures

- The application information, equipment, routes, policy context remain current.
- Reduce unnecessary review time for outdated files.
- Support consistent policy application and improved service timeline.

Implementation

These measures take effect immediately and apply to all date extension requests and approval validity determinations made on or after March 2nd, 2026.

Should you require further information about this change, please contact Commercial Transport Program staff at (250) 953-4017, or by email at Commercial.Transport@gov.bc.ca.

Thank you,



Samantha Eburne
Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch
Ministry of Transportation and Transit