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Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT

Owner Drivers and Forestry Contractors Regulations 2006

Notice is given that a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) has been prepared for the proposed Owner Drivers and Forestry Contractors Regulations 2006.

The principal objective of the Regulations is to improve the relationship between owner drivers and their hirers and forestry contractors and their hirers. The specific objectives of the Regulations are to:

- prescribe certain persons not to be contractors for the purpose of the Act or regulations, being persons (or corporations) who carry on a business of transporting goods using four or more vehicles supplied by that person or corporation;
- prescribe the Owner Drivers and Forestry Contractors Code of Practice for the purposes of regulating the relationship between owner drivers (that is, persons who contract to transport goods in a vehicle) and persons who hire them and forestry contractors (that is, harvesting or haulage contractors of forest products) and persons who hire them;
- set out the mandatory requirements which owner drivers and their hirers and forestry contractors and their hirers must comply with;
- promote fair and equitable business relationships between owner drivers and their hirers and forestry contractors and their hirers;
- provide guidance to the transport and forestry industries on conduct which may be unconscionable; and
- provide guidance to owner drivers and their hirers and forestry contractors and their hirers on contract terms which may be unjust.

The RIS analyses the proposed Regulations and identifies alternatives to the proposed Owner Drivers and Forestry Contractors Code of Practice. It concludes that the proposed Regulations are the best means to achieve the specific objectives and to improve the relationship between owner drivers and their hirers and forestry contractors and their hirers. The RIS assesses the costs and benefits of the proposed Regulations and concludes that the benefits of the proposed Regulations outweigh the costs imposed.

Public comments or submissions on the proposed Regulations and the RIS are invited. Copies of both documents can be obtained by telephoning Eva Koromilas or Andrea Lester at Industrial Relations Victoria, GPO Box 4509, Melbourne, Victoria 3000, telephone (03) 9651 9200, fax: (03) 9651 9333, or from Industrial Relations Victoria's website at: www.ir.vic.gov.au

Comments or submissions must be in writing and sent to Ms Andrea Lester at the above address or via email at andrea.lester@iird.vic.gov.au. The closing date for receipt of written submissions is 5.00 pm 16 October 2006. All submissions will be treated as public documents.

TIM LEE
Deputy Secretary
Industrial Relations Victoria

SPECIAL

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