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SECTION .0600 – OVERSIZE-OVERWEIGHT PERMITS

19A NCAC 02D .0601

PERMIT APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- (a) The Chief Engineer's office shall be responsible for issuing oversize/overweight permits as provided by this Section.
- (b) House move permit applications shall be submitted to the Department division and district offices. The Department's division and district offices shall approve or deny house move permit applications based on safety considerations after reviewing the route of travel and dimensions of the structure to be moved. House move permit applications shall be submitted at least two working days prior to the anticipated date of movement. House move permit applications shall contain the following information:
- (1) applicant's name and contact information;
 - (2) housemover license and truck license numbers;
 - (3) registered weight, serial number, and number of axles;
 - (4) description of the load dimensions
 - (5) extreme axle measurements, axle weights, and spacings;
 - (6) house construction descriptions
 - (7) requested route of travel descriptions; and
 - (8) travel plan and anticipated use of escort vehicle.
- (c) Superload permits shall be required for the movement of a vehicle and vehicle combination with a gross weight of 132,000 pounds or more; width of 15 feet or more; a mobile or modular unit with a width of 16 feet and a gutter edge of 3 inches; and a width of 16 feet and 11 inches, unless the permit is for house moves in accordance with Paragraph (b) of this Rule. Applicants for Superload permits shall submit a written application, the fee specified in G.S. 20-119(b), and documentation of any variance to the Central Permit Office at least 10 business days prior to the anticipated date of movement. Superload permits applications shall contain the following information:
- (1) applicant's name and contact information;
 - (2) truck and trailer license information and VIN number;
 - (3) gross weight, registered weight, extreme wheelbase measurements, and number of axles;
 - (4) description of the load dimensions; and
 - (5) description of axle spacings and weight.
- (d) Applicants shall submit a written application, the fee specified in G.S. 20-119(b), and documentation of variances to the Central Permit Office at least two business days prior to the anticipated date of movement of a vehicle or vehicle combination of a height greater than 14 feet, but not equal to or greater than 15 feet.
- (e) The issuance of any permit shall not imply nor guarantee the vertical clearance of the permitted load and the permittee shall be responsible for ensuring all vertical clearances prior to movement.
- (f) The Department shall accept certified check, money order, company check, or credit card in consideration for the fees specified in G.S. 20-119(b). No personal checks shall be accepted.

History Note:

Authority G.S. 20-119; 20-360; 20-361; 20-367; 20-369; 20-371; 136-18(5); 143B-346;
Eff. July 1, 1978;
Amended Eff. November 1, 1993; October 1, 1991;
Temporary Amendment Eff. January 10, 2002; October 1, 2000;
Amended Eff. December 1, 2012; April 1, 2009; August 1, 2002;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. September
6, 2016;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2019.

19A NCAC 02D .0602 PERMITS – ISSUANCE REQUIREMENTS

(a) The following are general issuance requirements for oversize/overweight permits.

- (1) Permits shall be issued by the Department. The maximum weight permitted on a designated route shall be determined by the bridge capacity of the bridges to be crossed during movement. Movements exceeding weight limits for highways or bridge structures shall be denied if considered by the Department to be unsafe or if the movement may cause damage to the highway or bridge structures. If the Department determines that the permitted movement may cause damage to the highway, bridge structures, or any other State property, the permittee shall be required to obtain a surety bond to cover the estimated cost of damages. A permit issued by the Department shall not be valid for travel over municipal streets, defined as streets or highways not maintained by the State of North Carolina.
- (2) Prior to applying for an oversize/overweight permit, the applicant shall be responsible for reducing and loading the item, commodity, or combinations thereof to the least possible dimensions and weight. Permits may be issued in accordance with this Section for movements of items or commodities that cannot be loaded, divided, dismantled, or disassembled to meet legal requirements.
- (3) One item or commodity shall qualify for overweight considerations. Multiple items or commodities shall not qualify for an overweight permit.
- (4) One item or commodity or multiple items or commodities loaded in-line shall qualify for overwidth considerations. If loaded side-by-side, multiple items or commodities shall not exceed eight feet, six inches in width.
- (5) One item or commodity of continuous length shall qualify for overlength considerations. The maximum length for a vehicle or vehicle combination shall be 105 feet. Approval may be given by the Central Permit Office for permitted loads in excess of 105 feet after review of the geographic route of travel, consideration of local construction projects, and evaluation of the other dimensions of the load.
- (6) One item or commodity shall qualify for overheight considerations. If piled or stacked, multiple items or commodities shall not exceed 13 feet, 6 inches.

(b) Annual Trip Permits

- (1) Annual permits shall be valid for 12 months from the effective date of the permit. Annual trip permits shall require an escort for vehicle and vehicle combinations that exceed 12 feet in width.
- (2) Annual permits may be issued for unlimited movement on all North Carolina highways, as permitted by the posted road and bridge limits, and without the requirement of an escort for the following:
 - (A) vehicle and vehicle combinations transporting non-divisible commodities;
 - (B) vehicle and vehicle combinations transporting a non-divisible commodity with a minimum extreme wheelbase of 51 feet;
 - (C) self-propelled equipment with four or five axles; and
 - (D) non-property hauling vehicles with permanently attached equipment, a minimum wheel base of 30 feet, the capability of traveling at highway speeds of 45 miles per hour, the operational purpose of traveling to and from a non-highway job, and a special mobile equipment license issued by the Division of Motor Vehicles.
- (3) Dimensions for vehicle and vehicle combination permits issued pursuant to Subparagraph 2 of this Paragraph shall not exceed:
 - (A) a width of 12 feet;
 - (B) a height of 13 feet, 6 inches; and
 - (C) a length of 105 feet.
 - (D) Part (2)(A) within this Paragraph shall not exceed the length as set forth in G.S. 20-115.1(b) and G.S. 20-116(e), and gross weights and axle weights as set forth in G.S. 20-118(b)(1)(2)(3).
 - (E) Parts (2)(B), (C), and (D) within this Paragraph shall not exceed a gross weight of 90,000 pounds, and axle weights of 20,000 pounds for steer axle, 25,000 pounds for single axle, 50,000 pounds for tandem axle, 60,000 pounds for tridem axle, and 68,000 pounds for axle groupings of four or more.
- (4) Annual permits may be issued for unlimited movement on all North Carolina highways, as permitted by the posted road and bridge limits, and with the requirement of an escort for vehicles

and vehicle combinations transporting farm equipment. Dimensions for vehicle and vehicle combination permits issued pursuant to this Subparagraph shall not exceed:

- (A) a width of 14 feet;
- (B) a height of 13 feet, 6 inches; and
- (C) a weight as set forth in G.S. 20-118(b)(3).

- (5) Annual permits may be issued with the requirement of an escort for mobile or modular homes if transported from a manufacturer to a North Carolina mobile or modular home dealership, or if transported from a North Carolina licensed mobile or modular home retail dealer to the transporter for the delivery of mobile or modular homes. Permitted mobile or modular homes shall be authorized to travel on designated routes approved by the Department considering construction work zones, highway lane widths, origin and destination, and other factors to ensure safe movement. Dimensions for vehicle and vehicle combination permits issued under this subparagraph shall not exceed:

- (A) a width of 14 feet;
- (B) a roof overhang of 12 inches, unless the unit width shall be 16 feet, in which case the gutter edge shall not exceed 3 inches;
- (C) a height of 13 feet, 6 inches; and
- (D) a weight as set forth in G.S. 20-118(b)(3).

(c) Single Trip Permits

- (1) Single trip permits shall be issued to the registered owner of the vehicle and valid for 10 calendar days for a single, one-way trip. Single trip permit applications shall include the exact origin, route, and exact destination, including applicable county and state road numbers and routes. A return trip shall only be considered for a single trip permit if the return trip is requested within the original permit application. No single trip permit shall be issued for a time period that exceeds 30 days.
- (2) Single trip permits for vehicle and vehicle combinations with non-divisible overwidth loads are limited to a maximum width of 15 feet and the conditions specified in this Rule.
- (3) Single trip permits shall not be restricted by overall length limitations, except the total combination length of mobile homes shall not exceed 105 feet.
- (4) Single trip permits shall not authorize a vehicle or vehicle combination height in excess of the vertical clearances on the authorized route.

(d) Non-divisible Loads

- (1) The maximum single trip and annual permit weight allowed for a vehicle or vehicle combination, not including off-highway construction equipment, shall be:
 - (A) 20,000 pounds for steer axles;
 - (B) 25,000 pounds for single axles;
 - (C) 50,000 pounds for tandem axles;
 - (D) 60,000 pounds for tridem axles;
 - (E) 68,000 pounds for axle groupings of four or more; and
 - (F) an engineering study is required for axle groupings of five or more that exceed 68,000 pounds.
- (2) The maximum single trip and annual permit gross weight allowed for a vehicle or vehicle combination, not including off-highway construction equipment, shall be:
 - (A) 70,000 pounds for a three-axle single vehicle;
 - (B) 90,000 pounds for a four-axle single vehicle;
 - (C) 94,500 pounds for a five-axle single vehicle;
 - (D) 112,000 pounds for a five-axle vehicle combination;
 - (E) 108,000 pounds for a six-axle single vehicle;
 - (F) 120,000 pounds for a six-axle vehicle combination;
 - (G) 122,000 pounds for a seven-axle single vehicle;
 - (H) 132,000 pounds for a seven-axle vehicle combination; and
 - (I) determined upon the completion of an engineering study for axle-vehicle combinations of 7 or more if their gross weight exceeds 132,000 pounds.
- (3) The maximum permit weight allowed for self-propelled off-highway construction equipment with low pressure or low flotation tires shall be:
 - (A) 37,000 pounds for a single-axle vehicle; and
 - (B) 50,000 pounds for a tandem-axle vehicle;

- (4) The maximum permit gross weight allowed for self-propelled off-highway construction equipment with low pressure or low flotation tires shall be:
 - (A) 70,000 pounds for a two-axle single vehicle;
 - (B) 80,000 pounds for a three-axle single vehicle; and
 - (C) 90,000 pounds for a four-axle single vehicle.
 - (5) An overweight permit with a specified route shall be available for a vehicle combination consisting of a power unit and trailer hauling a sealed ship container. No permit shall be issued in accordance with this Subparagraph unless the vehicle combination shall be:
 - (A) traveling to or from a designated seaport, whether in-state or out-of-state;
 - (B) transported by marine shipment;
 - (C) licensed for the maximum allowable weight for the 51-foot extreme wheelbase measurement as specified in G.S. 20-118;
 - (D) equal to or less than the maximum width, height, and length dimensions as specified in G.S. 20-116;
 - (E) a vehicle combination with at least five axles; and
 - (F) in possession of and able to furnish for inspection the documentation of the sealed commodity being transported.
- (e) Superload Permits
- (1) Superload permits shall be available for vehicle or vehicle combinations with axles or axle groupings that exceed the weight limitations provided by this Rule, a gross weight that exceeds 132,000 pounds, or a maximum width in excess of 15 feet. The Chief Engineer or the Chief Engineer's designee may authorize the issuance of a superload permit after analysis of the proposed load and evaluation of the proposed route of travel.
 - (2) Superload permits shall be issued to the registered owner of the vehicle and valid for 10 calendar days for a single, one-way trip. Superload permit applications shall include the exact origin, route, and exact destination, including applicable county and state road numbers or routes. A separate permit application shall be required for return trips.
- (f) Houses
- (1) Applications for permits to move buildings or structures in excess of 15 feet in width shall be made by a licensed housemover. Housemover license applications and supporting documentation are issued and renewed by the Central Permit Office. Please see 19A NCAC 02D .0601 for information on Housemover permits.
 - (2) An individual shall not be required to acquire a housemover license prior to applying for a permit if the power unit and building is owned by the permittee and the movement is from property individually owned by the permittee.
- (g) Mobile or Modular Homes
- (1) Mobile or modular home units shall not exceed a length of 76 feet and the total vehicle combination length shall not exceed 105 feet.
 - (2) A 14-foot-wide mobile or modular home unit may be transported with a bay window, room extension, or porch if the protrusion does not extend beyond the maximum roof overhang of 12 inches or the total width of overhang on the applicable side of the home. An extender shall be placed on the front and rear of the mobile or modular home with a length to extend horizontally equal to but not beyond the outermost edge of the mobile or modular home's extension. The extenders shall have retro-reflective sheeting, sized at a minimum of 4 inches, that shall be Type III high intensity, encapsulated lens, or Type IV-high performance, prismatic, with alternating fluorescent yellow and black diagonal stripes that slope towards the outside of the home with a minimum area of 288 square inches. The bottom of the extenders shall be 6 feet to 8 feet above the road surface. The top of each extender shall have mounted a 5-inch, amber-colored, flashing beacon.
 - (3) The North Carolina licensed mobile or modular home retail dealer shall maintain records of all mobile or modular units moved by authority of an annual permit for a minimum of four years from the date of movement. The records shall be available for inspection and audit by any officer, employee, or contractor of the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles. Failure to comply with any requirement shall be grounds for denying, suspending, or revoking Manufacturer's License, Dealer's License, and any North Carolina oversize/overweight permit privileges.

History Note: Authority G.S. 20-119; 20-360; 20-361; 20-367; 20-369; 20-371; 136-18(5); 143B-346;
Eff. July 1, 1978;
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19A NCAC 02D .0607 PERMITS – MOVEMENT AND TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

(a) All vehicles and vehicle combinations described in 19A NCAC 02D .0601 and .0602 shall adhere to the following movement requirements.

- (1) Unless otherwise authorized or restricted by this Rule, movement shall be made between sunrise and sunset. Movement of 16-foot wide mobile or modular home units with a maximum of 3-inch gutter edge shall be permitted Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. Movement of 16-foot wide mobile or modular home unit with a maximum 3-inch gutter edge may occur after 2:30 pm, but not beyond sunset, if the unit is traveling on an approved route as determined by an engineering study, and exported out-of-state. Sunday travel may be authorized from sunrise to sunset after consideration of the vehicle or vehicle combination dimensions. Considerations of safety and traffic flow may require the issuing office to impose additional time restrictions or allowances.
- (2) No movement shall be permitted for a vehicle or vehicle combination after 12:00 p.m. on the weekday preceding and until 12:00 p.m. on the weekday following Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. If Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, or Christmas Day fall on a Saturday or Sunday, travel is restricted from 12:00 p.m. on the preceding Friday until 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday.
- (3) Continuous travel occurring 24 hours a day, each day per year, shall not be authorized for vehicle or vehicle combinations with a gross weight in excess of 112,000 pounds. Self-propelled equipment shall be authorized for continuous travel if the overhang is less than 10 feet in length and meets all other requirements of this Subparagraph. The overhang shall be marked on both sides and end with high-intensity, glass-bead, retro-reflective sheeting tape. Each side of the self-propelled equipment shall be marked 24 inches from the road surface at the nearest feasible center point, between the steer and drive axles. The sheeting tape shall be 2 inches by 12 inches. Any rear overhang shall display a mounted brake light and flashing amber light, 8 inches in diameter with a minimum candlepower of 800 watts.
- (4) Permitted vehicles owned or leased by the same company or permitted vehicles originating at the same location shall travel no less than two miles apart. Convoy travel shall not be authorized except as directed by law enforcement escort or permit office.
- (5) Blades of construction equipment and front-end loader buckets shall not extend more than 14 feet across the roadway. A blade, bucket, or other attachment that is an original part of the manufactured equipment may be removed and hauled with the equipment without being considered a divisible load.
- (6) Permitted vehicle or vehicle combination movements shall not travel at a speed in excess of the posted speed limit. The issuing office shall be permitted to impose speed restrictions below the posted speed limit considering safety and load. A towing unit and mobile or modular home combination shall not exceed a maximum speed of 60 miles per hour. The driver of the permitted vehicle shall avoid creating traffic congestion by relinquishing the traffic way when a buildup of traffic occurs.
- (7) The object to be transported shall not be loaded or parked on the highway right of way without permission from the office that originally issued the permit and after confirmation of an emergency condition, such as mechanical problems or weather events.
- (8) No movements shall be made when visibility is less than 500 feet. Moves shall not be made when travel conditions are considered unsafe by the Division of Highways, State Highway Patrol, or other law enforcement officers having jurisdiction. Movement of a mobile or modular unit that exceed a width of 10 feet shall be prohibited if wind speed gusts are in excess of 25 miles per hour.
- (9) The mover shall be responsible for any expenses, arrangements, or approvals associated with removing or replacing any obstructions, including traffic signals, signs, and utility lines. Trees, shrubs, or State signs shall not be cut, trimmed, or removed without approval from the Division of Highways District Engineer having jurisdiction over the area involved. In determining whether to grant approval for cutting or trimming trees or shrubs, the District Engineer shall consider the species, age, and appearance of the tree or shrub in question and its contribution to the aesthetics of the area.

(b) Movement of all vehicles and vehicle combinations subject to this Section shall adhere to the following safety requirements.

- (1) A yellow banner measuring a total length of 7 feet x 18 inches high bearing the legend "Oversize Load" in 10-inch black letters 1.5-inch-wide brush stroke shall be displayed in one or two pieces totaling the required length on the front and rear bumpers of a permitted vehicle and vehicle combination with a width greater than 10 feet. A towing unit mobile or modular home combination shall display banners of the size specified bearing the legend "Oversize ----- feet Load" identifying the actual width of the unit in transport. Escort vehicles shall display banners as specified in this Subparagraph with the exception of length to extend the entire width of the bumpers.
- (2) Red or orange flags measuring 18 inches square shall be displayed on all sides at the widest point of load for all loads in excess of 8 feet 6 inches wide, but the flags shall be mounted so as not to increase the overall width of the load.
- (3) All permitted vehicles and vehicle combinations shall be equipped with tires, axels and brakes in accordance with North Carolina Statutes and Motor Carrier and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.
- (4) Rear view mirrors and other safety devices on towing units attached for movement of overwidth loads shall be removed or retracted to conform with legal width when unit is not towing or hauling such vehicle or load.
- (5) Flashing amber lights shall be used as determined by the issuing permit office.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 20-116; 20-118; 20-119; 136-18(5);
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