

00-077 / 7
Committee

CR 00-077

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation proposes an order to amend TRANS 276.07(4), relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ON THE FINAL RULE DRAFT**

This report is submitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and Assembly for referral to the appropriate standing committees. The report consists of the following parts:

- Part 1--Analysis prepared by the Department of Transportation.
- Part 2--Rule text in final draft form.
- Part 3--Recommendations of the Legislative Council.
- Part 4--Analysis prepared pursuant to the provisions of s. 227.19(3), Stats.

Submitted by:



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PART 1

Analysis Prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats.

STATUTE INTERPRETED: s. 348.07(4), Stats.

General Summary of Proposed Rule. This proposed rule amends Trans 276.07(4), Wisconsin Administrative Code, to add one segment of highway to the designated highway system established under s. 348.07(4), Stats. The actual highway segment¹ that this proposed rule adds to the designated highway system is:

<u>Hwy.</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
STH 17	STH 64 in Merrill	USH 8 in Rhinelander

The long trucks to which this proposed rule applies are those with 53-foot semitrailers, double bottoms and the vehicles which may legally operate on the federal National Network, but which exceed Wisconsin's regular limits on overall length. Generally, no person may operate any of the following vehicles on Wisconsin's highways without a permit: A single vehicle with an overall length in excess of 40 feet², a combination of vehicles with an overall length in excess of 65 feet, a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, an automobile haulaway longer than 66 feet plus allowed overhangs, or a double bottom. Certain exceptions are provided under s. 348.07(2), Stats., which implements provisions of the federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act in Wisconsin.

The effect of this proposed rule will be to extend the provisions of s. 348.07(2)(f), (fm), (gm) and (gr), and s. 348.08(1)(e), Stats., to the highway segments listed above. As a result, vehicles which may legally operate on the federal National Network in Wisconsin will also be allowed to operate on the newly-designated highways. Specifically, this means there will be no overall length limitation for a tractor-semi-trailer combination, a double bottom or an automobile haulaway on the affected highway segments. There also will be no length limitation for a truck tractor or road tractor when operated in a tractor-semi-trailer combination or as part of a double bottom or an automobile haulaway. Double bottoms will be allowed to operate on the affected highway segments provided neither trailer is longer than 28 feet, 6 inches. Semi-trailers up to 53 feet long may also be operated on these highway segments provided the kingpin to rear axle distance does not exceed 43 feet. This distance is measured from the kingpin to the center of the rear axle

¹ The proposed rule text often achieves these objectives by consolidating individual segments into contiguous segments with new end points. In order to determine the actual highway segment added, it is necessary to compare the combined old designations with the combined new designation.

² 45-foot buses are allowed on the National Network and Interstate system by Federal law. Section 4006(b) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

or, if the semitrailer has a tandem axle, to a point midway between the first and last axles of the tandem. Otherwise, semitrailers, including semitrailers which are part of an automobile haulaway, are limited to 48 feet in length.

These vehicles and combinations are also allowed to operate on undesignated highways for a distance of 5 miles or less from the designated highway in order to reach fuel, food, maintenance, repair, rest, staging, terminal or vehicle assembly or points of loading or unloading.

Fiscal Impact. The Department estimates that there will be no fiscal impact on the liabilities or revenues of any county, city, village, town, school district, technical college district or sewerage district.

Copies of Rule and Contact Person. Copies of this proposed rule are available without cost upon request to the office of the State Traffic Engineer, P. O. Box 7986, Room 501, Madison, Wisconsin, 53707-7986, telephone (608) 266-1273. For questions about this rule making, please call Ashwani Sharma, Traffic Operations Engineer at (608) 266-1273. Alternate formats of the proposed rule will be provided to individuals at their request.

PART 2
TEXT OF PROPOSED RULE

Under the authority vested in the state of Wisconsin, department of transportation, by ss. 85.16(1) and 348.07(4), Stats., the department of transportation hereby proposes to amend ch. Trans 276, Wisconsin Administrative Code, interpreting s. 348.07(4), Stats., relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways, as follows:

SECTION 1. Trans 276.07(4) is amended to read:

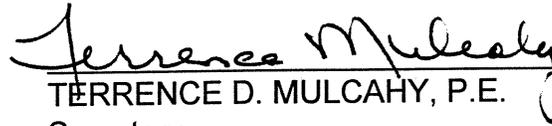
	<u>Route</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Trans 276.07(4)	STH 16	CTH "J" N. of Rockland	IH 90 E. of Sparta
	STH 16	STH 78 at Portage	IH 94 N. of Waukesha
	STH 17	USH 8 in Rhineland STH 64 in Merrill	Phelps

USH 18 IA Line at Prairie du Chien STH 89 W. of Jefferson
USH 18 STH 164 E. of Waukesha IH 94 E. of Waukesha
STH 19 USH 12 S. of Springfield Corners STH 16 E. of Watertown

(END OF RULE TEXT)

Effective Date. This rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register as provided in s. 227.22(2), Stats.

Signed at Madison, Wisconsin, this 23 day of
May, 2000.


TERRENCE D. MULCAHY, P.E.
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

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PART 3

CLEARINGHOUSE REPORT TO AGENCY

[THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PREPARED PURSUANT TO S. 227.15, STATS. THIS IS A REPORT ON A RULE AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE AGENCY; THE REPORT MAY NOT REFLECT THE FINAL CONTENT OF THE RULE IN FINAL DRAFT FORM AS IT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE. THIS REPORT CONSTITUTES A REVIEW OF, BUT NOT APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF, THE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT AND TECHNICAL ACCURACY OF THE RULE.]

CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 00-077

AN ORDER to amend Trans 276.07 (4), relating to allowing the operation of double bottoms and certain other vehicles on certain specified highways.

Submitted by **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

04-12-00 RECEIVED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

05-08-00 REPORT SENT TO AGENCY.

RS:WF:rv

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES CLEARINGHOUSE REPORT

This rule has been reviewed by the Rules Clearinghouse. Based on that review, comments are reported as noted below:

1. STATUTORY AUTHORITY [s. 227.15 (2) (a)]

Comment Attached YES NO

2. FORM, STYLE AND PLACEMENT IN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE [s. 227.15 (2) (c)]

Comment Attached YES NO

3. CONFLICT WITH OR DUPLICATION OF EXISTING RULES [s. 227.15 (2) (d)]

Comment Attached YES NO

4. ADEQUACY OF REFERENCES TO RELATED STATUTES, RULES AND FORMS
[s. 227.15 (2) (e)]

Comment Attached YES NO

5. CLARITY, GRAMMAR, PUNCTUATION AND USE OF PLAIN LANGUAGE [s. 227.15 (2) (f)]

Comment Attached YES NO

6. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS WITH, AND COMPARABILITY TO, RELATED FEDERAL
REGULATIONS [s. 227.15 (2) (g)]

Comment Attached YES NO

7. COMPLIANCE WITH PERMIT ACTION DEADLINE REQUIREMENTS [s. 227.15 (2) (h)]

Comment Attached YES NO

PART 4
CR 00-077

ANALYSIS OF FINAL DRAFT OF TRANS 276

(a) **Need for Amended Rule.** This proposed rule amends Trans 276.07(4), Wisconsin Administrative Code, to add one segment of highway to the designated highway system established under s. 348.07(4), Stats. The actual highway segment that this proposed rule adds to the designated highway system is:

<u>Hwy.</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
STH 17	STH 64 in Merrill	USH 8 in Rhinelander

(b) **Modifications as a Result of Testimony at Public Hearing** The public hearing was held in the Town of Gleason on May 19, 2000. No modifications were made as a result of testimony at the hearing.

(c) **List of Persons who Appeared or Registered at Public Hearing** The following persons appeared/registered at the hearing:

Joe Hildebrand, General Manager, Pioneer Transport, 301 Merrill Street, Merrill, WI 54452—registered in favor of the rule.

Rod Burgener, Chairman, Town of Russell, N5309 Hwy. 17, P. O. Box 45, Gleason, WI 54435—spoke in favor of the rule.

Grant Peterson, President, Pioneer Transportation Ltd., N2130 Hwy. 17, Merrill, WI 54452—spoke in favor of the rule.

Pat Walker-Geurink, Owner, Pat Walker Trucking, P. O. Box 98, W1017 2^d Avenue, Gleason, WI 54435—spoke in favor of the rule.

Ron Geurink, Pat Walker Trucking, P. O. Box 98, Gleason, WI 54435—spoke in favor.

Clarence Steger, Town of Russell Supervisor, Box 104, Gleason, WI 54435—registered in favor of the rule.

(d) **Response to Legislative Council Recommendations.** The Legislative Council made no recommendations.

(e) **Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis.** The provisions of this proposed rule adding highway segments to the designated system have no direct adverse effect on small businesses, and may have a favorable effect on those small businesses which are shippers or carriers using the newly-designated routes.