

Media Release



Victorian
Farmers
Federation

15 April 2021

VFF hits the brakes on proposed truck registration increase

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) says Austroads' unrealistic proposal to dramatically increase heavy vehicle registrations for older vehicles will hurt farmers and small businesses and is strongly urging the Victorian Government not to adopt the recommendation.

VFF President Emma Germano said whilst many farmers are supportive of the move to more environmentally friendly and safer trucks, the proposal to increase heavy vehicle registrations on older vehicles is inequitable.

"This proposal will disproportionately impact farmers who often use trucks to travel short distances and only at certain times of the year, such as harvest."

"In some cases we could see some trucks costing up to \$20,000 to register."

"Austroads has failed to understand the far reaching impacts of this proposal for truck owners."

"Put simply, the reality is this would make heavy vehicle ownership unaffordable for many small businesses and farmers and will greatly impact transport costs for farm businesses."

Ms Germano urged the Victorian Government to consider other options to modernise the state's heavy vehicle fleet, such as financial incentives

"Initiatives such as grants to replace older trucks would be a far more effective solution."

The VFF recently wrote to Victorian Minister for Public Transport, Roads And Road Safety, Ben Carroll MP expressing the above and is looking forward working together to achieve a fair outcome.

ENDS

Media Contacts:

Ryan Moloney, VFF, 0400 874 589

Farrer House 24-28 Collins Street Melbourne 3000

Ph. 1300 882 833 | Fax. 03 9207 5500 | E-mail. vff@vff.org.au | www.vff.org.au