

BULLETIN

Commercial Vehicle Industry Association



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Changes to the Road Traffic Act 1961, Motor Vehicles Act 1959 and supporting regulation as of 1 May 2019

Dear members

CVIAV has been notified that there will be changes to the legislation as of 1 May 2019 that will introduce new penalties to drivers of all trucks and busses who are detected driving unsafely on the down-track of the South Eastern (SE) Freeway into Adelaide.

The amendments to the *Road Traffic Act 1961, Motor Vehicles Act 1959 and supporting regulations* aim to improve road safety on the SE Freeway and reduce vehicle crashes involving brake failure and excessive speed.

Offences

When descending the SE Freeway, truck and bus drivers must:

- Use a gear that is low enough to limit the speed of the vehicle without the use of a primary break; and
- Not drive at a speed in excess of the relevant speed limit.
NB: Trucks and buses are limited to a **maximum speed of 60km/h on the SE Freeway down-track**, however speeds may be further reduced via the variable speed limit signs or other temporary speed limit signs at any time to maintain safe travel. This may include inclement weather, reduced visibility or as a result of a crash, roadworks

Penalties

From 1 May 2019, truck and bus drivers whose vehicles are not engaged in a low gear (as described above) or exceed the relevant speed limit by 10km/h or more will receive an **expiation fee of \$1036, six demerit points, plus a six month licence disqualification.**

Further offences and drivers convicted by the court will face even heavier penalties.

These new penalties only apply to the portion of down-track of the SE Freeway indicated on the map below.

For further information please read the [attached flyer](#) or visit www.infrastructure.sa.gov.au/SEFreeway

The red line on the map below indicates the road section to which the new offences apply.



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