



AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LTD

Route Access Condition Notice

14-00021

Distributed To:	ARTC Website
Distribution Date:	18/12/14
Requested By:	Scott Chapman
Subject:	Increased Wagon axle loads, Muswellbrook to Narrabri Coal Loader.
Effective Period:	Until Published (2015)
Amendment Type:	Permanent

Note: Permanent Route Access Condition Notices (RACN) are periodically updated in the ARTC Route Access Standard (RAS), at which time the relevant RACN is withdrawn.

RAS Reference:

Section: H2 & H3 **Version No.:** 1.3 **Page/s:** 4

ARTC Network Location:

Line Section: Muswellbrook to Narrabri Coal Loader
Kms: 288.738 – 540.318

As part of initiatives to improve network capacity, RACN 14-00003 was issued on 20th June 2014 to allow the operation of locomotives with >22.8t axle load between Muswellbrook and Narrabri Coal (540.318km). The maximum loading of wagons however was restricted to 25t axle loads as per the previous provisions.

As a further improvement to the network capacity, an increase in the loading wagons from 25t to 30t axle loads is to be introduced from the 1st January 2015 on coal trains between Muswellbrook and Narrabri Coal (540.318km).

The operation of coal trains hauled by >22.8t axle load locomotives with approved wagons loaded to 120 tonnes gross between Muswellbrook and Narrabri Coal is subject to the conditions below:

- The maximum operating speed for any train hauled by >22.8t axle load locomotive is 60km/h
- The maximum speed for the TT class locomotive up to 23.33t is 80km/h
- The maximum speed for wagons loaded above 100t gross to 120t gross is 60km/h
- All trains must abide by lower temporary speed restrictions as per normal operating procedures

Locomotives with axle load >22.8t and wagons with axle load > 25t are not permitted to use:

- Werris Creek Yard (Main Line and Loop ok to use)
- Gunnedah Yard (Main Line, Platform Road, Through Road and Loop ok to use)
- Boggabri Yard (Main Line and Loop ok to use)
- Quirindi Loop (Main Line ok to use)

The operation of locomotives >22.8t and wagons loaded to 120t gross will be monitored under normal track inspection procedures, supplemented by a special Local Engineering Instruction.

H2 Route Capacity

MUSWELLBROOK – WERRIS CREEK

Train Type	Maximum Speed (km/h)	Maximum Axle Load (tonnes)	
		Locos	Wagons
Freight	115	22.3	19.5
	100	22.8	21
	80	22.8	25
	80 ¹	23.33	25
	60	30.0	30
Passenger			
XPT	160	19	
Xplorer/Railcar	145	19	
Diesel Haul	115	19	

¹ This requirement is currently only applicable to PN TT Class locomotives.

Note: Route capacity applies where vehicle characteristics and conditions permit.

H3 Route Capacity

WERRIS CREEK – NARRABRI

Train Type	Maximum Speed (km/h)	Maximum Axle Load (tonnes)	
		Locos	Wagons
Freight	115	22.3	19.5
	100	22.8	20
	80	22.8	25
	80 ¹	23.33	25
	60	30.0	30
Passenger			
XPT	160	19	
Xplorer/Railcar	145	19	
Diesel Haul	115	19	

¹ This requirement is currently only applicable to PN TT Class locomotives.

Note: Route capacity applies where vehicle characteristics and conditions permit.

Issued By:

Richard Potts

Australian Rail Track Corporation

Approved By:

John Furness - Manager Standards (Minor)

Ref: