January 8, 2014

The Bureau of Municipal Services has been asked to contact all municipalities statewide to make them aware of recent changes to the Special Hauling Permit language. The revised Special Permit language is below.

§ 4962. CONDITIONS OF PERMITS AND SECURITY FOR DAMAGES.* * *(F.3) ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZED TRAVEL PERIODS.--WITH RESPECT TO OVERSIZED VEHICLES (OVER-LENGTH, OVER-WIDTH, OR OVER-HEIGHT), A PERMITTED VEHICLE, COMBINATION OR LOAD MAY OPERATE UNDER A PERMIT FROM SUNRISE TO SUNSET EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS:

(1) DURING A HOLIDAY PERIOD SPECIFIED IN DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS OR IN THE PERMIT.
(2) DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER AS DEFINED IN DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS.
(3) IN URBANIZED AREAS AS SPECIFIED IN DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS OR THE PERMIT.
(4) AS RESTRICTED BY THE PERMIT.

In short this change, which was approved with the passage of the recent Highway Transportation Bill, increases the number of days from 5 to 7 days per week when properly permitted loads may travel.

Municipalities will be impacted by this change in three ways: 1) citizens may notice larger escorted vehicles traveling on the weekend; 2) they may receive requests to permit weekend moves on their roadways; and 3) It will be important that special event permits (craft fairs, parades, etc.) are applied for from the Department. The special event will be entered in the APRAS system so that hauling conflicts can be avoided.

Please contact Tom Welker with any questions/comments. Tom may be reached by phone at 717.783.3721 or email at twelker@pa.gov.