March 13, 2020

ATTN: Motor Carriers
COVID-19 Emergency Declaration

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Governor Brown has declared a state of emergency across the state of Oregon. In order to ensure the movement of goods necessary for relief to the public, under the authority granted in ORS 823.012, ODOT is declaring a suspension of the motor carrier drivers hours of services requirements for motor carriers providing essential supplies until 3/16/2020, 5:11 P.M.

Motor carriers or drivers currently subject to an out-of-service order are not eligible for these exemptions until the order expires or they have met the conditions for its rescission.

Nothing contained in this declaration shall be construed as an exemption from the controlled substances and alcohol use and testing requirements (49 CFR Part 382), the commercial driver’s license requirements (49 CFR Part 383), the financial responsibility (insurance) requirements (49 CFR Part 387), operating authority (49 CFR Part 365).

Note: The 390.23 exemption shall not exceed the duration of direct assistance in providing emergency relief.

Vehicles responding to emergencies are required to enter open scale facilities when a sign posted before the scale reads “All Trucks Over 20,000# GVWR Next Right”, or with a GVWR of 10,000# or greater without this posted sign, unless they are operating with red warning lights and/or siren.

If stopped, be sure to let enforcement personnel know that you are responding to an emergency. The vehicle may be allowed to proceed and obtain required permits and/or credentials as soon as possible afterwards.

Please check the State’s website www.oregon.gov for additional information about services and updates on our response to the COVID-19 virus. Information changes rapidly and we will be working with our federal partners closely over the next several days.

Thank you,

Amy Ramsdell, Commerce and Compliance Division Administrator
Oregon Department of Transportation