

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

HILL County

MINUTE ORDER

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WACO District

In accordance with Transportation Code §545.0651 and 43 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §§25.601-25.604, the Texas Department of Transportation (department) is proposing a lane restriction applicable to trucks with three or more axles, and to truck tractors, regardless of whether the truck tractor is drawing another vehicle or trailer as defined in Transportation Code, §541.201. The proposed lane restriction prohibits those vehicles from using any traffic lane, other than the second, third and fourth controlled access lanes on each side of INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 35 as counted from the center (inside left lane) of the highway from approximately US 77 south of the Interstate Highway 35 East/West split through Hill County to approximately 1.5 miles north of Abbott.

Transportation Code, §545.0651, authorizes the department to restrict through traffic, by class of vehicle, to two or more designated lanes of traffic on certain portions of the designated state highway system, and requires the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) to adopt rules. The commission adopted rules, 43 TAC §§25.601-25.604 that became effective on January 8, 2004.

In accordance with TAC §25.604(e)(3), the department conducted a traffic study to evaluate the impact of the lane restriction. In accordance with §25.604(d), the department published a notice in the Texas Register for a 30 day comment period on August 3, 2012 and held a public hearing on the proposed restriction on August 14, 2012. The proposed lane restriction would be in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and would allow the operation of those vehicles in a prohibited traffic lane for the purposes of passing another vehicle or entering or exiting the highway.

In accordance with 43 TAC §25.604(h)(2), the executive director may temporarily suspend the lane restriction in an emergency.

The commission, having evaluated the truck lane restriction proposal based on the safety of the traveling public and the factors listed in 43 TAC §25.604(f), finds that the proposed lane restriction should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the proposed lane restriction in Hill County is approved and shall become effective upon placement of all necessary traffic control devices.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Carol M. Hutton, P.E.

Director, Traffic Operations Division

Recommended by:

[Signature]

Executive Director

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Minute
Number

Date
Passed