



BACKGROUNDER: Hours-of-Service Regulations Amendments – Electronic Logging Devices

What are electronic logging devices?

Electronic logging devices (ELDs) are devices that automatically record driving time in commercial vehicles. They connect to the electronic control module of a vehicle and make it easier to track, manage, share and improve the accuracy of a driver's Hours-of-Service record.

What is the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) proposing with the Hours-of-Service regulations amendments?

The amendments to the Hours-of-Service regulations under the *Motor Vehicles Act* will require the use of ELDs for commercial vehicles weighing at or above 4,500 kilograms operating in the Northwest Territories (NWT). The amendments also propose providing an exemption to using ELDs for commercial vehicles weighing at or under 11,794 kilograms that are only driven in the NWT. Drivers of exempted vehicles will still need to log their Hours-of-Service but can do so in a paper log format. The exemption is based on industry feedback the GNWT heard during stakeholder engagement.

Why is the GNWT proposing these amendments?

Enhancing road safety in the NWT is a priority for the GNWT. Automatically recording driving time in commercial vehicles will reduce the potential for driver fatigue, make our roads safer, prevent accidents and save lives.

The Government of Canada has mandated the use of ELDs, and all Canadian jurisdictions will implement and enforce this mandate in 2023. These amendments will align the NWT with other jurisdictions in Canada that are working to implement this safety measure.

ELDs are a more efficient and accurate way for drivers to log working hours. Except in the cases where exemptions are given, they replace the paper log system, where logbooks are filled out by hand and kept in the vehicle. Because ELDs automate the tracking, it will make it easier for drivers and commercial carriers to comply with Hours-of-Service regulations.

The implementation of mandatory ELDs in the NWT provides other benefits to drivers, commercial carriers and the public:

- Reduces administrative costs for the industry.
- Reduces enforcement costs for the NWT.



- Reduces out-of-service detention time of drivers who violate the regulations.
- Aligns better with regulatory requirements in the rest of Canada and the United States.

When will ELDs become mandatory in the NWT for commercial carriers?

The GNWT is targeting the spring of 2023 to enforce the mandatory use of ELDs and for these proposed amendments to come into force.

The GNWT has engaged with NWT commercial carriers as we have moved toward implementing the federal ELD mandate and proposing these amendments. This engagement has shown that industry is in support of these proposed amendments.

NWT residents now have the opportunity to provide their feedback on the proposed amendments to the Hours-of-Service regulations. They will be available for public input for 30 days – from March 13-April 13, 2023.