

**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA**

**MOTOR VEHICLES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2022**

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**Subordinate Legislation No. 24 of 2022**

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**Subordinate Legislation No. 24 of 2022\***

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## ***Motor Vehicles Legislation Amendment Regulations 2022***

I, Vicki Susan O'Halloran, Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, make the following regulations under the *Motor Vehicles Act 1949* and the *Traffic Act 1987*.

Responsible Minister:

E. D. LAWLER  
Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

V. S. O'HALLORAN  
Administrator

Date of making: 20 December 2022

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## Part 1 Preliminary matters

### 1 Title

These Regulations may be cited as the *Motor Vehicles Legislation Amendment Regulations 2022*.

### 2 Commencement

These Regulations commence on 1 February 2023.

## Part 2 Amendment of Motor Vehicles (Standards) Regulations 2003

### 3 Regulations amended

This Part amends the *Motor Vehicles (Standards) Regulations 2003*.

### 4 Schedule 6, Part 11 replaced

Schedule 6, Part 11

*repeal, insert*

## Part 11 Alternative fuel systems

*Notes for Part*

- 1 *This Part sets out requirements to ensure that Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fuel systems are safely installed in motor vehicles.*
- 2 *This Part also sets out requirements to ensure that an LPG-powered, hydrogen-powered or electric-powered vehicle can be identified by labels on the number plates of the vehicle.*

## Division 1 Definitions and application of number plate labels

### 154 Definitions

In this Part:

***character***, in relation to a number plate, does not include a diamond shaped mark on a number plate.

***electric-powered vehicle***, see rule 154A.

**hydrogen-powered vehicle** means a motor vehicle that:

- (a) is powered by a hydrogen fuel system; and
- (b) has 1 or more hydrogen fuel containers fitted to the vehicle for the system.

**LPG** means Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG).

**154A Meaning of *electric-powered vehicle***

- (1) An ***electric-powered vehicle*** means a motor vehicle that is powered by 1 or more electric motors or traction motors that:
  - (a) are the only propulsion system for the vehicle; or
  - (b) are used in conjunction with another propulsion system for the vehicle.
- (2) An electric-powered vehicle does not include a motor vehicle that is a hydrogen-powered vehicle even if the vehicle is fitted with an electric motor or traction motor that is used in conjunction with a hydrogen fuel system for the propulsion of the vehicle.

**154B Number plate labels**

To comply with a requirement in this Part to affix a label to a number plate:

- (a) each character on the label must be legible;
- (b) the colour of the label must be distinguishable from the colour of the following:
  - (i) any character on the label;
  - (ii) if the label is affixed to a number plate – the number plate;
  - (iii) if the label is affixed to a part of the vehicle – the part of the vehicle;
  - (iv) if the label is affixed to a part that is attached to the vehicle – the part attached to the vehicle.

**154C Number plate label affixed to one number plate**

For the following vehicles, a requirement to affix a label to front and rear number plates applies only to the number plate that is required to be affixed:

- (a) a motor vehicle that is exempt by the Registrar under section 16(3) of the Act from the requirement under section 16(1) of the Act to have affixed more than 1 number plate;
- (b) a motor cycle.

**Division 2 Number plate labels for particular alternative fuel systems****154D LPG-powered vehicles**

- (1) An LPG system installed in a motor vehicle, and the vehicle, must comply with Australian Standard AS 1425 or Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1425 that is current at the time the system is installed in the vehicle.
- (2) A motor vehicle that has an LPG system installed must have affixed conspicuously to the motor vehicle's front and rear number plates the labels required by the version of Australian Standard AS 1425 or Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1425 that is current at the time the system is installed in the vehicle.
- (3) If a motor vehicle had an LPG system installed before Australian Standard AS 1425 was first published, the vehicle must have affixed conspicuously to the motor vehicle's front and rear number plates a label:
  - (a) that is made of durable material; and
  - (b) that is at least 25 mm wide and 25 mm high; and
  - (c) that is of a reflective red that conforms with Australian Standard AS 1743: 2018 "Road signs – Specifications" or Australian Standard AS 1906.1:2017 "Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purposes (Part 1: Retroreflective sheeting)"; and
  - (d) that states 'LPGAS' or 'LPG', or similar words or acronyms that have the same meaning, in capital letters at least 6 mm high.

**154E Vehicles powered by natural gas**

A natural gas system installed in a motor vehicle, and the vehicle, must comply with Australian Standard AS 2739 or Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2739 that is current at the time the system is installed in the vehicle.

*Examples of natural gasses for rule 154E*

- 1 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).
- 2 Liquid Natural Gas (LNG).

**154F Hydrogen-powered vehicle built on or after 1 January 2019**

- (1) This rule applies in relation to the following:
  - (a) a hydrogen-powered vehicle built on or after 1 January 2019;
  - (b) a vehicle modified to be a hydrogen-powered vehicle on or after 1 January 2019.
- (2) The vehicle must have affixed conspicuously to the vehicle's front and rear number plates:
  - (a) for a vehicle fitted with 1 hydrogen fuel container – a label that complies with rule 154H; or
  - (b) for a vehicle fitted with 2 or more hydrogen fuel containers – 2 labels that comply with rule 154H.

**154G Hydrogen-powered vehicle built before 1 January 2019**

- (1) This rule applies in relation to the following:
  - (a) a hydrogen-powered vehicle built before 1 January 2019;
  - (b) a vehicle modified to be a hydrogen-powered vehicle before 1 January 2019.
- (2) The vehicle is not required to have any label affixed under this Part.
- (3) Despite subrule (2), the vehicle may have affixed conspicuously to the vehicle's front and rear number plates:
  - (a) for a vehicle fitted with 1 hydrogen fuel container – a label that complies with rule 154H; or
  - (b) for a vehicle fitted with 2 or more hydrogen fuel containers – 2 labels that comply with rule 154H.

**154H Label requirements for hydrogen-powered vehicles**

For rules 154F(2) and 154G(3), the label must comply with the following:

- (a) the label is affixed to a plate made of metal that is at least 1 mm thick;
- (b) the label, and the plate to which the label is affixed, is a regular pentagonal shape:
  - (i) each side of which is 20 mm long; and
  - (ii) each interior angle of which is 108°;
- (c) the label has a yellow surface that complies with class 2 of Australian Standard AS 1906.1:2017 "Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purposes (Part 1: Retroreflective sheeting)";
- (d) the label is marked 'H' in a black capital letter that is at least 10 mm high and has the orientation shown in the example;
- (e) the label, and the plate to which the label is affixed, is affixed to the number plates so that the letter on the label is in an upright position;
- (f) the label, and the plate to which the label is affixed, does not wholly or partly obscure any characters on the number plates.

*Example for rule 154H*



*Note*

*The example of the label is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the label's actual size, dimensions or colour.*



**154J Electric-powered vehicles built on or after 1 January 2019**

- (1) This rule applies in relation to the following:
  - (a) an electric-powered vehicle that is built on or after 1 January 2019;
  - (b) a vehicle modified to be an electric-powered vehicle on or after 1 January 2019.
- (2) The vehicle must have affixed conspicuously to the vehicle's front and rear number plates:
  - (a) a label that complies with rule 154L(1); or
  - (b) if affixing the label to the electric vehicle's number plate would obscure a character on the number plate – a label that complies with 154L(2).

**154K Electric-powered vehicles built before 1 January 2019**

- (1) This rule applies in relation to the following:
  - (a) an electric-powered vehicle built before 1 January 2019;
  - (b) a vehicle modified to be an electric-powered vehicle before 1 January 2019.
- (2) The vehicle is not required to have any label affixed under this Part.
- (3) Despite subrule (2), the vehicle may have affixed conspicuously to the vehicle's front and rear number plates:
  - (a) a label that complies with rule 154L(1); or
  - (b) if affixing the label to the electric vehicle's number plate would obscure a character on the number plate – a label that complies with rule 154L(2).

**154L Label requirements for electric-powered vehicles**

- (1) For rules 154J(2)(a) and 154K(3)(a), a label must comply with the following:
  - (a) the label is affixed to a plate made of metal that is at least 1 mm thick;
  - (b) the label, and the plate to which the label is affixed, is an equilateral triangular shape:
    - (i) each side of which is 30 mm in length; and

- (ii) each interior angle of which is 60°;
- (c) the label has a blue surface that complies with class 2 of Australian Standard AS 1906.1:2017 "Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purposes (Part 1: Retroreflective sheeting)";
- (d) the label is marked 'EV' in white capital letters that are at least 8 mm high and have the orientation shown in the example;
- (e) the label, and the plate to which the label is affixed, is affixed to the number plates so that the letters on the label are in an upright position;
- (f) the label, and the plate to which the label is affixed, does not wholly or partly obscure any characters on the number plates.

*Example for subrule (1)*



*Note*

*The example of the label is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the label's actual size, dimensions or colour.*

- (2) For rules 154J(2)(b) and 154K(3)(b), a label must comply with the following:
  - (a) the label, and any plate to which the label is affixed, is an equilateral triangular shape:
    - (i) each side of which is 30 mm in length; and
    - (ii) each interior angle of which is 60°;
  - (b) the label has a blue surface that complies with class 2 of Australian Standard AS 1906.1:2017 "Retroreflective materials and devices for road traffic control purposes (Part 1: Retroreflective sheeting)";

- (c) the label is marked 'EV' in white capital letters that are at least 8 mm high and have the orientation shown in the example;
- (d) the label, and any plate to which the label is affixed, is affixed to the vehicle or to a part attached to the vehicle within 100 mm of an edge of the number plate;
- (e) the label, and any plate to which the label is affixed, is affixed in a manner that shows the letters on the label in an upright position and on the same horizontal plane as the characters on the number plate;
- (f) the label is visible from the same angles from which the number plate is visible.

*Example for subrule (2)*



*Note*

*The example of the label is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent the label's actual size, dimensions or colour.*

## **Part 3                      Amendment of Traffic Regulations 1999**

### **5                      Regulations amended**

These Regulations amend the *Traffic Regulations 1999*.

### **6                      Regulation 26 amended (Offence in relation to plate)**

Regulation 26(2)(a), before "has"

*insert*

other than as required or permitted by another law of the Territory –

**Part 4 Repeal of Regulations**

**7 Repeal of Regulations**

These Regulations are repealed on the day after they commence.