

INDUSTRY UPDATE

Fair Work Commission: Road Transport Contractual Chain Order

AfPA | April 2026

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) issues this statement to advise members; the Fair Work Commission has issued a Road Transport Contractual Chain Order (RTCCO) under amendments introduced by the Fair Work Amendment (Fairer Fuel) Act 2026. The RTCCO was made on an expedited basis in response to the ongoing global fuel supply disruption, and is effective from 21 April 2026. It will remain in place until diesel falls below \$2 per litre.

The RTCCO requires parties within a road transport contractual chain to adjust the rates they pay, at least fortnightly, to ensure that increased fuel costs are recovered by those performing road transport work. These obligations apply to both "primary" parties (those at the top of the contractual chain) and "secondary" parties (those further down the chain), including in respect of regulated road transport contractors and employee-like workers.

The scope of the RTCCO is broad. On a wide reading of the legislation, obligations may extend to all contracting parties in a chain involving road transport, not only those who directly engage transport operators. The flexible pavement sector, which relies on road transport across its full supply chain, is working through the practical and contractual implications of compliance.

AfPA acknowledges the complexity of the RTCCO and is actively reviewing guidance to understand its reach and obligations for members. We are engaging with fellow industry bodies, including the Civil Contractors Federation (CCF) and the Australian Constructors Association (ACA) to develop a coordinated position on behalf of the broader supply chain.

Our objective is to support members in navigating compliance, to represent the sector's interests to government, and to work constructively with clients, their supply chains, and collaborate with associated industry bodies toward a practical path forward. We will provide further guidance as our assessment progresses. Members with questions are encouraged to contact the AfPA national office.

A copy of the order can be found [here](#), and a copy of the factsheet can be found [here](#).

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Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA)

29 April 2026