

Traffic Control Device: **Signs**

Division: **Regulatory**

Subject: **Engine Retarder Brakes**

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Purpose

The Department of Infrastructure and Transportation receives requests from local jurisdictions to install signs along the provincial highways to prohibit the use of engine retarder brakes ("Jake Brakes").

Policy

Sections 179 (1) & (2) of *The Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) prohibit driving of motor vehicles that cause loud noise from engine retarder brakes. Sections 90(1), 90(2) and 90 (3) of the *same act* allow the respective local jurisdictions as the traffic authority to have additional or supplementary by-laws towards this, including imposing of penalties.

The Department will install signs on highways where the Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation is the traffic authority, at the request and expense of the local jurisdiction, according to the following conditions:

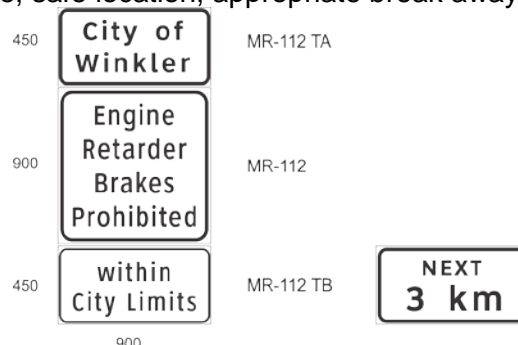
- sign installations are included in the jurisdiction's "Noise By-Law"
- the By-Law has been approved by the Minister or a delegate to be enforceable on provincial routes.
- the notice of approval is attached to and forms part of the By-Law as per section 90 (3) of HTA; see the attached Form for completion.
- signs are requested by resolution

Standard

Appropriate regulatory black on white ENGINE RETARDER BRAKES PROHIBITED signs (MR-112) as shown below will be installed at appropriate locations as determined by the Director of Traffic Engineering. However, local jurisdictions should be cautious of their use of this signing. **Engine retarder brakes are a valuable adjunct to normal wheel brakes, especially in hilly terrain or on long downhill gradients.** Properly installed and maintained engine retarder brakes should generate little additional noise above that resulting from normal truck acceleration.

Sign costs are 100% totally the responsibility of the local jurisdiction. Signs which are defaced, damaged or destroyed, or which require replacement due to age or condition will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Signs can only be installed by the Department and therefore installation by others is not considered. This is to ensure consistency of message, safe location, appropriate break away (safety) sign posts, etc.



RECOMMENDED: _____
Director, Traffic Engineering

APPROVED: _____
Executive Director