
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

NO. 7456

7 May 2026

RAILWAY SAFETY ACT, 2024 (ACT NO. 30 OF 2024)**PUBLICATION OF FEES FOR COMMENTS**

The Minister of Transport, hereby in terms of section 66(1) of the Railway Safety Act, 2024 (Act No. 30 of 2024) read together with section 30(2) of the Act publishes for comments the determination of the fees that the Railway Safety Regulator must charge for safety permits as indicated in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to the Director-General, Department of Transport, within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice, for the attention of:

Director-General: Transport
ATT: Ms. Moloko Machaka
Department of Transport
Private Bag X193
PRETORIA
0001

E-mail: machakam@dot.gov.za

Tel: (012) 309 3676

SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

For purpose of calculating fees:

“activity” means the railway movement undertaken by operators on a railway network;

“activity costs” means the activity levels of the operator based on distance travelled (in kilometres) and number of passengers, tonnages for dangerous goods or general freight transported;

“annual passengers” means the total number of passengers transported aboard a train operator’s passenger or commuter rolling stock between two points (i.e. a station of boarding and of disembarkation) with the exception of a train operator’s personnel, over the period of the operator’s most recently completed financial year;

“annual tonnes” means the total sum of the mass of dangerous or general goods loaded onto a wagon by a train operator in the preceding financial year and transported along the portion of a rail network for which the train operator has a permit to traverse;

“base costs” means costs related to safety permit assessments, audits, inspections and the maintenance and running of the National Information Monitoring System (NIMS);

“cape gauge” means a type of railway track where the distance between the two rails of the track is 1,067 millimetres in length;

“dangerous goods” means dangerous goods as defined in the Act;

“general freight or passenger operators” means those networks, train or station operators (or a combination thereof) whose operations include the transportation of passengers and freight that excludes dangerous or mining goods;

“mine operations” means the operations undertaken above surface by train, network, and station operators to support mining activities;

“operator” means an operator as defined in the Act;

“passengers” means people transported by a train between two points (i.e. a station of boarding and disembarkation) with the exception of a train operator’s personnel;

“rand per activity unit” means the Railway Safety Regulator (RSR) cost divided by the total of the operators’ averages. The total activity by all operators over the period under consideration;

“safety costs” means the average annual number of occurrences reported by the operator over the calculation period(s). Occurrences are weighted based on their severity;

“standard gauge” means a type of railway track where the distance between the two rails of the track is 1,435 millimetres in length;

“total annual kilometres travelled” means the total annual kilometre rail distance covered with passengers, general freight or dangerous goods; and

“tourist passengers” means passengers transported aboard railway operator’s rolling stock between two points (i.e. a station of boarding and of disembarkation) for recreational purposes, with the exception of a train operator’s personnel and commuter passengers.

2. Application fees

- 2.1 A non-refundable application fee must accompany an application for a safety permit. The fees specified in the categories **Operator category and amount** column of the Schedule shall be payable in respect of the corresponding **application fee for general safety permit** that is applied for as specified in the first column of the Schedule indicated as follows:

Table 1 - Operator Category and Amount (Rands)

APPLICATION FEES FOR GENERAL SAFETY PERMIT	OPERATOR CATEGORY AND AMOUNT (RANDS)		
	Transportation of Mining goods by rail	Transportation of Dangerous goods by rail	Transportation of passengers or General Freight by rail
Group A: Train, Network and Station operators Application Fee	R74 204.00	R74 204.00	R74 204.00
Group B: Train, Network and Station Operators Application Fee	R24 314.00	R25 519.00	R4 392.00
Group C: Train, Network and Station Operators Application Fee	R10 196.00	R10 196.00	R4 387.00

- 2.2 The Operators have been grouped as follows:

(a) **Group A: Train Operators, Network Operators and Station Operators**

Railway Operators who transport 500 000 tonnes or more of general freight, 50 000 tonnes or more of dangerous goods, or passengers are liable to pay application fees as determined in the table above.

(b) Group B: Train Operators, Network Operators and Station Operators

Railway Operators who transport between 200 000 tonnes and 500 000 tonnes of general freight, less than 50 000 tonnes of dangerous goods or tourists are liable to pay application fees as determined in the table above.

(c) Group C: Train Operators, Network Operators and Station Operators

Railway Operators who transport less than 200 000 tonnes of general freight are liable to pay Application fee as determined in the table above.

3. Permit fee rates for train operators, network operators and station operators for existing operators or railway users

3.1 The formula below is used as a basis to calculate safety permit fees:

$$\text{Safety Permit Fee} = \text{Base cost} + \text{Safety cost} + \text{Activity cost}$$

3.1.1 Table 2 below is used as a basis to calculate operators' annual safety permit fee.

Table 2 - Permit Fee Inputs - Activity Costs

PERMIT FEE INPUTS - ACTIVITY COSTS			
Operator Category	Rail Activities	Data input	Unit cost for 2026/2027 FY
Train Operator	Tourists or Passengers (running lines and or private sidings)	Average kilometers travelled with Tourists or Passengers for the selected period	Rand per km
		Average # of passengers for the selected period scaled at 1:11.98 using the Passenger to General freight unitized equivalent (passenger)	Rand per passenger unitized equivalent
	General freight or Dangerous goods (running lines or private sidings)	Average kilometers travelled with general freight or Dangerous goods for the selected period	Rand per km
	General freight	Average tonnes for the selected period scaled at 11.98:1 using the Passenger to General freight unitized equivalent (tonne)	Rand per general freight tonne unitized equivalent
	Dangerous goods	Average tonnes for the selected period	Rand per dangerous good

		scaled at 1:5. Dangerous goods are scaled using the Passenger to General freight unitized equivalent (Dangerous goods)	tonne unitized equivalent
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Table 3 - Permit Fee Inputs - Safety Costs

PERMIT FEE INPUTS - SAFETY COSTS			
Operator Category	Rail Activities	Data input	Unit cost for 2026/2027 FY
Network or Train Operator	All Operators	Average number of weighted occurrences	Rand per Occurrence

Table 4 - Permit Fee Inputs - Base Costs

PERMIT FEE INPUTS - BASE COSTS			
Operator Category	Rail Activities	Data input	Unit cost for 2026/2027 FY
Network or Train Operator	All operators	Total Base costs	Rand value based on the total number of operators

Network operator permit fee calculation: **Base cost + Safety cost**

3.2 Parameters used for the calculations.

- (a) Passenger to General Freight unitized equivalent ratio is 1:11.98
- (b) Dangerous Goods to General Freight proportion is 1:5

4. Application of Notice

- 4.1 The safety permit fee rates and formulae specified in section 2 and 3 of this schedule applies to all legal entities and Railway Operators that are required

to meet legal obligations as set out in the Railway Safety Act, 2024 (Act No.30 of 2024), irrespective of class, size or sector.

- 4.2 The permit fee rates and formulae specified in section 3.1 and 3.2 of this schedule do not apply to operators listed in Annexure “A”. These operators will be migrated over a 3-year period.

5. Short title and Commencement

This notice is called the Determination of Safety Permit Fees for the 2026/2027 financial year and will come into operation at a date to be determined by the Minister in the Government Gazette.

ANNEXURE A**MIGRATING OPERATORS FOR THREE YEARS**

Number	Operator Name
1	AFRICAN RAIL AND TRACTION SERVICES
2	ASSMANG LIMITED T/A KHUMANI IRON ORE MINE
3	ASSMANG LIMITED-MANGANESE ORE-BLACK ROCK
4	BOMBELA OPERATING CO (PTY) LTD
5	ESWATINI RAILWAYS
6	FPT GROUP (PTY) LTD
7	FRANSRAIL CC T/A FRANSCHHOEK VALLEY WINE TRAM
8	GRINDROD RAIL CONSULTANCY SERVICES (PTY) LTD
9	GRINDROD TERMINALS RICHARDS BAY A DIVISION OF GRINDROD (SA) (PTY) LTD
10	HARMONY GOLD MINING COMPANY LIMITED T/A HARMONY GOLD MINE FREE STATE OPERATIONS
11	IMPALA PLATINUM LTD T/A IMPLATS
12	LOCOMOTIVE, ENGINES & GENERAL ENGINEERING (PTY) LTD
13	MAKOYA SUPPLY CHAIN HOLDINGS (PTY) LTD
14	MOTSAMAYI TOURISM GROUP (PTY) LTD C/O CAPE POINT CONCESSION
15	MOZAMBIQUE PORTS & RAILWAYS T/A CFM
16	OUTENIQUA POWER VAN CC
17	PALABORA MINING COMPANY LIMITED
18	PASSENGER RAIL AGENCY OF SOUTH AFRICA T/A PRASA RAIL
19	RICHARDS BAY COAL TERMINAL (PTY) LIMITED
20	SAFREIGHT LOGISTICS T/A SAFLOG

Number	Operator Name
21	SIBANYE RUSTENBURG PLATINUM MINES (PTY) LTD
22	SISHEN IRON ORE COMPANY (PTY) LTD T/A KUMBA IRON ORE
23	TENGWA AFRICA (PTY) LTD
24	TRADEKOR PE (PTY) LTD
25	TRAINS PLANES & AUTOMOBILES T/A ATLANTIC RAIL
26	TRANSNET SOC LTD
27	TRANSNET RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER (TRIM), A DIVISION OF TRANSNET SOC LTD
28	TRAXTION SHEL TAM (PTY) LTD
29	UMFOLOZI SUGAR PLANTERS (PTY) LTD T/A UCOSP
30	UMGENI STEAM RAILWAY