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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ITD to hold statewide hearing May 25 on truck permit requirements

BOISE – How can Idaho's rules for trucks improve safety and efficient customer service? The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is asking for input on this question at a public hearing **Wednesday (May 25)** in Boise. There will also be video conference opportunities in five locations throughout the state.

ITD has initiated negotiated rulemaking to consider potential improvements that may enhance safety on Idaho's highways, while maintaining or enhancing Idaho's commerce. The rulemaking is for all commercial vehicles that require a permit.

The areas of emphasis for discussion are:

- 1) safety, such as driver qualifications and equipment needs,
- 2) regional harmonization,
- 3) improved permitting processes, and
- 4) improved customer service.

Administrative rules ensure a state agency's procedures are aligned with the requirements of policies and programs established by the Idaho Legislature, through Idaho code.

Negotiated rulemaking is an informal part of the rulemaking process that brings together interested and affected persons for discussion and input prior to development of a final rule.

The public hearing will be held Wednesday, May 25, from 3:30 pm-7:30 pm (MDT) at ITD's headquarters at 3311 W. State Street in Boise. Verbal or written testimony will also be received at ITD's district offices in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Shoshone, Pocatello and Rigby via video conference. Public input may be submitted through May 31.

For additional information on this project or to learn more about the various opportunities to give public input, go to <u>itd.idaho.gov</u> and click on the "rulemaking" tab on the left. Questions about public input may also be directed to Ramon Hobdey-Sanchez, ITD Governmental Affairs Program Specialist, at 208-334-8810.

If ITD determines that an actual Administrative Rule change is desired and feasible, it will initiate proposed rulemaking. The public would have an opportunity to review the proposed rule at another public hearing in June before it goes before the Idaho Transportation Board and the Idaho Legislature for approval.