

37. The Ethics Commissioner and any person specially authorized by the Ethics Commissioner have, for the purposes of an inquiry and in accordance with section 93 of the Code, the powers and immunity conferred on commissioners appointed under the Act respecting public inquiry commissions (chapter C-37), except the power to order imprisonment.

38. The Ethics Commissioner may make agreements with other persons such as the Auditor General and the Lobbyists Commissioner for the conduct of joint inquiries, each under the legislative provisions that person administers.

39. If, after a verification, the Ethics Commissioner is of the opinion that there are no grounds for a request for an inquiry, the Ethics Commissioner terminates the inquiry process and records that fact in the report on the matter.

40. The Ethics Commissioner must conduct inquiries in private and with due dispatch. The Ethics Commissioner must allow the office staff member concerned to present a full and complete defence, including an opportunity to submit observations and, if the office staff member so requests, to be heard, including on the question of whether he or she has violated the rules of conduct set out in this regulation.

The Ethics Commissioner must not comment publicly on a verification or inquiry but may confirm that a request for a verification or an inquiry has been received or that a verification or inquiry is under way or has been completed. The Ethics Commissioner may also state why, after a verification, the Ethics Commissioner decided not to conduct an inquiry.

41. The Ethics Commissioner's inquiry report is sent to the office staff member concerned, the Minister concerned and the Premier. If applicable, the Ethics Commissioner informs the person who submitted the inquiry request of the Ethics Commissioner's findings.

42. The Ethics Commissioner may include in the report any guidelines for the general interpretation of the rules of conduct set out in this regulation.

CHAPTER V COMING INTO FORCE

43. Executive secretaries who are employed as such on the day of the coming into force of this regulation must, within the following 60 days, file with the Ethics Commissioner the disclosure statement described in section 19.

44. This regulation comes into force on 30 April 2013.

M.O., 2013

Order number 2013-02 of the Minister of Transport dated March 11, 2013

Highway Safety Code
(chapter C-24.2, s. 633.1)

Use on public highways of immersed road vehicles

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT,

CONSIDERING the first paragraph of section 633.1 of the Highway Safety Code (chapter C-24.2), which provides that after consultation with the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec, the Minister of Transport may, by order, restrict or prohibit, for up to 180 days, the use on public highways of any model or class of vehicle that endangers the safety of persons and property;

CONSIDERING the first paragraph of section 633.1 of the Code, which provides that any interested party may submit comments to the person designated in the order within 90 days after its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*;

CONSIDERING the first paragraph of section 633.1 of the Code, which provides that at the expiry of 180 days, the Minister may, by order, make the restriction or prohibition permanent;

CONSIDERING the first paragraph of section 633.1 of the Code, which provides that a restriction or prohibition under that paragraph comes into force on the date the order is published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*;

CONSIDERING the fourth paragraph of section 633.1 of the Code, which provides that the publication requirement set out in section 8 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1) does not apply to an order made under that section;

CONSIDERING that it is expedient to prohibit, for 180 days, the use on public highways of certain road vehicles that have been immersed in water or contaminated with toxic fluid because they endanger the safety of persons and property;

CONSIDERING that the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec was consulted on this draft Order by the Minister of Transport;

ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The use on public highways is prohibited for the following road vehicles manufactured after 1980 and registered or having to be registered in Québec:

(1) vehicles that were immersed in water up to the junction of the engine wall and the floor of the passenger compartment or up to a higher level;

(2) vehicles that were immersed in water up to a level that could have affected one of the major components of their electrical system;

(3) vehicles that were contaminated with toxic fluid, that renders the vehicle unsafe due to a health hazard;

(4) vehicles of which a part has been replaced by a similar part from a vehicle referred to in any of subparagraphs 1 to 3, that renders the vehicle unsafe due to a health hazard;

(5) vehicles of which a major component of the electrical system has been replaced by a similar component from a vehicle referred to in subparagraph 2.

For the purposes of subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the first paragraph, in the case of a vehicle from outside Québec, its use on public highways is prohibited if it was immersed in water or shows signs of damage attributable to immersion or if it is described by another jurisdiction as having been immersed in water, in all cases, regardless of the immersion level.

For the purposes of this section, “major component of the electrical system of a vehicle” means

- (1) a fuse panel or breaker panel;
- (2) an electronic component of the occupant supplemental restraint system;
- (3) an electronic component of the compartment’s heating, air conditioning or ventilation system;
- (4) an electronic component of the defogging or defrosting system;
- (5) an electronic component that controls an element of the drivetrain system;
- (6) an electronic component of the self-diagnostic system;
- (7) an electronic component of the braking, acceleration or steering system or of any other system affecting the drivability of the vehicle, its stability or safety;
- (8) electrical wiring with unsealed connections inside the passenger compartment.

2. Section 1 does not apply to vehicles registered in Québec that have been rebuilt in accordance with the standards provided for in the Highway Safety Code (chapter C-24.2) and for which a certificate of technical compliance and a certificate of mechanical inspection have been issued before the date of coming into force of this Order.

3. Any interested party may submit comments on this Order before 25 June 2013 to Michel Morency, Société de l’assurance automobile du Québec, 333, boulevard Jean-Lesage, C-4-21, C.P. 19600, Québec (Québec) G1K 8J6; email: michel.morency@saaq.gouv.qc.ca

4. This Order comes into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*. It is revoked on 23 September 2013.

SYLVAIN GAUDREAULT,
Minister of Transport

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