

**16 VAC 25-96**

**16 VAC 25-90-1910.269(p)(1)(ii)**

**Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution; Mechanical Equipment**

~~1910.269(p)(1)(ii): No vehicular equipment having an obstructed view to the rear may be operated on off-highway jobsites where any employee is exposed to the hazards created by the moving vehicle unless:~~

- ~~(i) The vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level, or;~~
- ~~(ii) The vehicle is backed up only when a designated employee signals that it is safe to do so.~~

See Reverse Signal Operation Safety Requirements for Motor Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment in General Industry and the Construction Industry, 16 VAC 25-97.

**16 VAC 25-175-1926.601(b)(4)**

**Motor Vehicles**

~~§1926.601(b)(4): No employer shall use any motor vehicle equipment having an obstructed view to the rear unless:~~

- ~~(i) The vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level or;~~
- ~~(ii) The vehicle is backed up only when an observer signals that it is safe to do so.~~

See Reverse Signal Operation Safety Requirements for Motor Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment in General Industry and the Construction Industry, 16 VAC 25-97.

**16 VAC 25-175-1926.602(a)(9)(ii)**

**Material Handling Equipment**

~~§1926.602(a)(9)(ii): No employer shall permit earthmoving or compacting equipment which has an obstructed view to the rear to be used in reverse signal unless the equipment has in operation a reverse signal alarm distinguishable from the surrounding noise level or an employee signals that~~

~~it is safe to do so.~~

See Reverse Signal Operation Safety Requirements for Motor Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment in General Industry and the Construction Industry, 16 VAC 25-97.

**16 VAC 25-175-1926.952(a)(3)**

**Mechanical Equipment**

~~§1926.952(a)(3): No employer shall use any motor vehicle equipment having an obstructed view to the rear unless:~~

~~(i) The vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level or;~~

~~(ii) The vehicle is backed up only when an observer signals that it is safe to do so.~~

See Reverse Signal Operation Safety Requirements for Motor Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment in the Construction Industry, 16 VAC 25-97.

**16 VAC 25-97**

**Reverse Signal Operation Safety Requirements for Motor Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment in General Industry and the Construction Industry**

A. This section shall apply to all general industry and construction industry vehicles, machinery or equipment capable of traveling in reverse and with an obstructed view to the rear (hereafter referred to as “covered vehicles”), whether intended for operation in off-road work zones or over the road transportation or hauling.

B. The phrase “obstructed view to the rear” means anything that interferes with the overall view of the operator of the vehicle to the rear of the vehicle at ground level, and includes, but is not limited to, such obstacles as any part of the vehicle (e.g., structural members); its load (e.g., gravel, dirt, machinery parts); its height relative to ground level viewing; damage to windows or side mirrors, etc., used for rearview movement of the vehicle; restricted visibility due to weather

conditions (e.g., heavy fog, heavy snow); or work being done after dark without proper lighting.

C. No employer shall use any covered vehicle unless:

1. the covered vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level,  
and
2. the covered vehicle is backed up only when a designated observer or ground guide signals that it is safe to do so.

D. While engaged in signaling activities, the designated observer/ground guide shall:

1. have no other assigned duties;
2. shall not engage in any other activities unrelated to back-up operations other than those related to the covered vehicle being signaled;
3. shall not use personal cellular phones, personal head phones or similar items that could pose a distraction for the designated observer/ground guide; and
  4. shall be provided with and wear:
    - a. during daytime operations a safety vest or jacket in orange, yellow strong yellow green or fluorescent versions of these colors, reflective warning garments; and
    - b. during nighttime operations a safety vest or jacket with retroreflective material in orange, yellow, white, silver, strong yellow green or a fluorescent version of these colors and shall be visible at a minimum distance of 1,000 feet.

E. No driver of a covered vehicle shall travel in reverse unless they maintain constant visual contact

with the designated observer/ground guide. If visual contact is lost, the driver shall immediately stop the vehicle until visual contact is regained and a positive indication is received from the designated observer/ground guide to restart back-up operations.

F. Prior to permitting an employee to engage in any covered activity under this section, the employer shall ensure that each driver of a covered vehicle and each designated observer/ground guide is trained in the requirements of this section.

G. Refresher training shall be provided by the employer for any driver of a covered vehicle or any designated observer/ground guide when the driver or designated observer/ground guide:

1. has been observed to violate the requirements of this section;

2. has been involved in an accident or near miss accident; or

3. has received an evaluation that reveals that the driver or designated signaler is not operating under this section in a safe manner.

H. Covered vehicles with video or similar technological capability to provide the driver with a full view behind the vehicle are exempt from section C.2.

I. Covered vehicles are exempt from section C.2. if the driver visually determines from outside the vehicle that no employees are in the backing zone and that it is reasonable to expect that no employees will enter the backing zone during reverse operation of the vehicle.

J. Covered vehicles that were not equipped with a reverse-signal alarm upon manufacture or were not later retrofitted with an alarm are exempt from section C.1.

K. To the extent that any federal Department of Transportation (DOT) regulation applies to covered vehicles conflicts with this section, the DOT regulation shall take precedence.