The National Voluntary Guidelines for Landside Stevedore Charges & Empty Container Park Charges

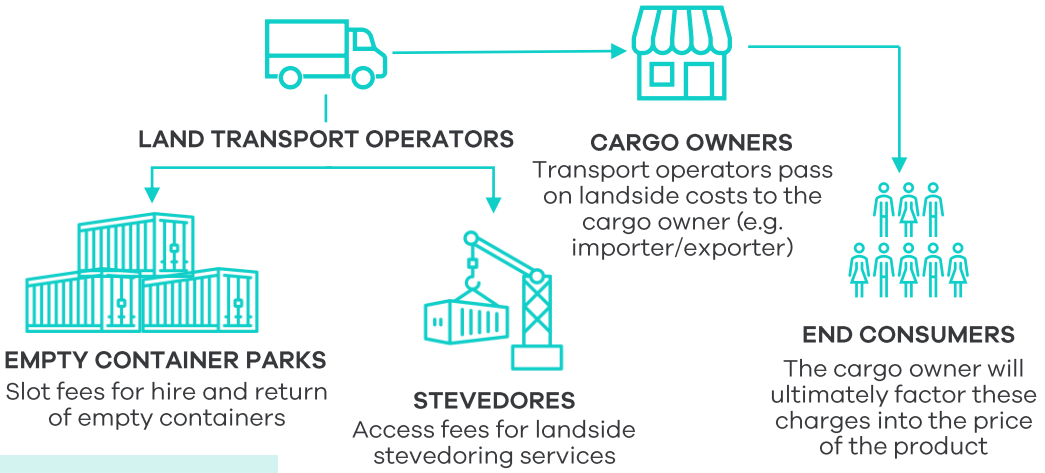
The Guidelines establish a clear process for how price changes are communicated. The guidelines cover both new landside charges or increasing existing ones levied by stevedores and empty container parks on land transport operators accessing Australian ports and handling containerised cargo.

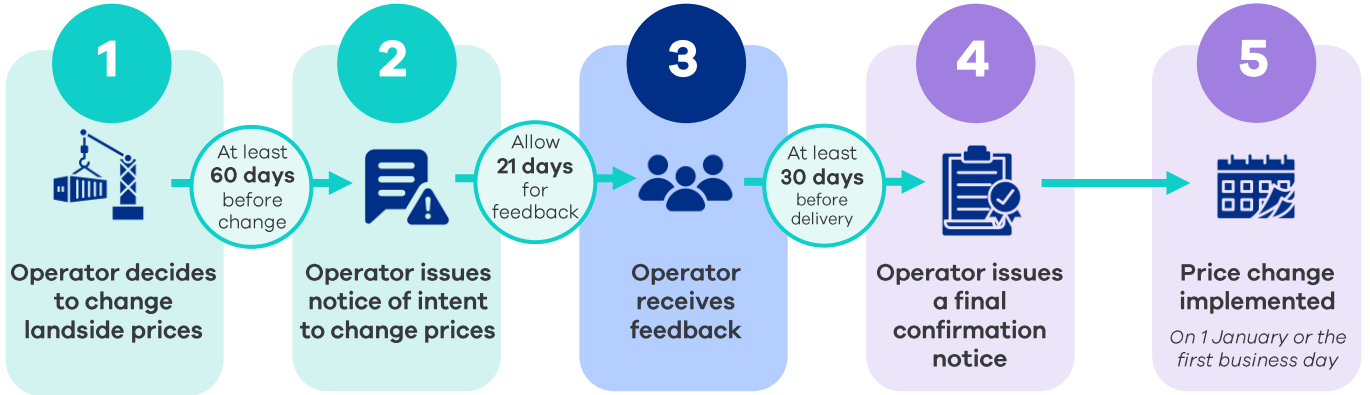
The updated guidelines

Transport Minister's approved updates to the National Voluntary Guidelines in October 2026. The updated Guidelines commence operation on 1 January 2027. The key changes are:

- Expansion of the guidelines to apply to empty container park operators.
- Annual price changes implemented on 1 January, or first business day, of each calendar year.
- Simplified notice content requirements.

Overview of how landside charges operate





Notice of intention
MINIMUM CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

- Operator details
- Proposed prices changes & history
- Detailed reasoning for change
- Feedback process & contacts

Published on: Operator's website; Transport agency

Final confirmation notice
MINIMUM CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

- Operator details
- Final price change details & charge history
- Feedback received & changes made from feedback

Published on: Operator's website; Transport agency

What we heard & changes we made

The updates to the Guidelines were developed in consultation with industry and government stakeholders. Some changes were made between the consultation paper and the final approved guidelines. These changes include:

SUPPORTING DATA
The draft guidelines required operators to provide confidential supporting data to transport agencies. This requirement has been removed from the final guidelines.

UNIFIED REQUIREMENTS
The draft guidelines had different requirements for stevedores and empty container parks. The final guidelines apply the same requirements to both.

National Transport Commission