

Battery Stewardship Council

Creating an effective & efficient
national stewardship scheme
for batteries in Australia



As an accredited Battery Steward, we:

- **agree to participate in the Scheme and abide by the general and specific obligations selected below**
- **support the objectives of the Battery Stewardship Scheme to:**
 - **increase resource recovery and recycling**
 - **minimise the environmental, health and safety impacts of end-of-life batteries generated in Australia**
 - **develop Australia's battery recycling industry and markets for battery-derived products**
- **acknowledge that this agreement is subject to approval, verification, and revocation by the Board of BSC.**

GENERAL OBLIGATIONS FOR ALL BATTERY STEWARDS

As Battery Stewards we agree to:

- Give preference for supply of battery-related goods and services only with other accredited members to the Scheme authorised by the ACCC (Determination AA1000476).
- Where current contract arrangements require dealings with a non-accredited party during the transition period to the BSC Stewardship Scheme, Battery Stewards must still ensure that all end-of-life batteries generated are provided to an accredited battery recycler for environmentally sound disposal.
- Give priority to the purchase of batteries manufactured using recycled content where appropriate.
- Promote the Scheme to the community, other businesses and organisations; and use BSC approved Scheme branding and logo as appropriate and adhere to the conditions that apply to that use.
- Comply with legal and other requirements, including BSC standards and procedures for quality, traceability, environment, and Work, Health and Safety.
- Cooperate with random or risk-based audits as instigated by BSC and with surveys undertaken from time to time.
- Retain and make accessible to the BSC records to demonstrate these obligations and related BSC procedures and guidance are being met.
- Give appropriate access to relevant records for audit purposes as appropriate.
- Ensure that used batteries generated through our own operations are disposed of through accredited battery stewards.

SPECIFIC ACCREDITATION OBLIGATIONS FOR SUPPLY CHAIN BATTERY STEWARDS

Tick box for all the following categories your organisation is seeking accreditation for its role in the supply chain.

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MANUFACTURER AND/OR IMPORTER

- Contribute funding through an annual levy based on weight of imports to support the implementation of the Scheme as authorised by the ACCC (Determination AA1000476 of 4 Sept 2020) and set annually by the Board of BSC.
- Provide data on the types and numbers of batteries imported through an independent agency appointed by the BSC.
- Commit to a continuous improvement regime for battery quality, safety and labelling to improve recycling outcomes.
- Comply with Australian law regarding the import of loose batteries and new equipment that contain batteries.
- Promote participation in the Scheme to businesses and other organisations to which they supply and purchase batteries.
- Pass on the cost of the levy to wholesalers and/or retailers as a component of the product pricing.
- Contribute to making the Levy visible to the consumer.

RETAILER

- Commit to accepting the cost of the levy from importers/manufacturers and pass on the levy to consumers.
- Make the levy visible to the consumer through mechanisms such as Scheme branding, promotional materials, receipts, or other communications as considered appropriate by the battery steward.
- Only sell loose batteries that are compliant with the relevant Australian standards.
- Give purchasing priority to new equipment that contain batteries that are compliant with the relevant Australian standards.
- Promote participation in the Scheme to consumers, communities, and relevant supply chain companies.
- Commit to corporate and community battery drop-off location obligations if collection points are provided.

CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY BATTERY DROP-OFF LOCATION

- Provide a safe collection point for batteries left by consumers.
- Conform to BSC collection point standards, including the use of containers approved by BSC.
- Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- Guarantee all end-of-life batteries received go to BSC accredited collection, sorting and processing providers
- Use the BSC approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries collected for recycling.
- Report fire and other significant relevant incidents to the appropriate authorities and the BSC to enable a better understanding of the risks to improve collection systems.

LOGISTICS PROVIDER

- Provide logistics services that conform to BSC approved standards for quality, environment health and safety, (e.g., packing, tracking, safety & quality assurance), for example AS 5377, ISO 14001, and/or ISO 45001.
- Guarantee all end-of-life batteries received go to a BSC accredited sorting and/ or processing facility.
- Accept collected batteries only from BSC accredited organisations.
- Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- Maximise the use of domestic markets for battery recycling.
- Use the BSC approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries collected for recycling.
- Report to BSC on collection rates and costs.
- Report fire, contamination, and other relevant significant incidents to the relevant authorities and the BSC to enable a better understanding of the risks to improve collection systems.
- Be a member of the Australian Battery Recycling Initiative.

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SORTING PROVIDER

- Provide sorting services that conform to BSC approved quality, environment, health and safety standards and laws for example AS 5377, ISO 14001, and/or ISO 45001.
- Accept collected batteries only from BSC accredited organisations.
- Guarantee all end-of-life batteries received go to a BSC accredited processing facility for environmentally sound disposal.
- Maximise the use of domestic markets for battery recycling.
- Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- Use the BSC approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries collected for recycling.
- Report to BSC on sorting categories, chemistries, rates and costs.
- Report fire, contamination, and other relevant significant incidents to the relevant authorities and the BSC to enable a better understanding of the risks to improve sorting systems.
- Be a member of the Australian Battery Recycling Initiative.

ONSHORE PROCESSOR

- Provide processing services that conform to BSC approved quality, environment, health and safety standards and laws for example AS 5377, ISO 14001, and/or ISO 45001.
- Only accept batteries from BSC accredited collection points, logistics providers and sorters to recycle collected batteries.
- Guarantee all end-of-life batteries received are processed by an BSC accredited reprocessing facility for environmentally sound disposal.
- Ensure the environmentally sound use of commodities obtained from the recycling of batteries and maximise the use of domestic markets for process outputs.
- Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- Use the BSC approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries collected for recycling.
- Report fire and other relevant incidents to the relevant authorities and the BSC to enable a better understanding of the risks to improve collection systems.
- Report to BSC on collection and recovery of batteries processed (quantity, chemistry, fate, and costs).
- Be a member of the Australian Battery Recycling Initiative.

GOVERNMENT AGENCY

Through the Meeting of Environment Ministers (MEMs) all Governments in Australia have endorsed the BSC Scheme and it has been authorised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). Where Government agencies have a direct role in the battery supply chain (e.g. as collectors or logistics providers) they are expected to seek accreditation, work only with accredited partners and commit to meeting the obligations under the relevant category above.

Governments have established regulatory and policy arrangements consistent with battery stewardship and which cover the life-cycle of batteries including in particular, transport, storage and disposal. Governments recognise that monitoring the effectiveness and harmonising policies and regulations will play an important part in meeting the objectives of battery stewardship. In addition, Governments have recognised that there is a need for additional support industry development via existing and future funding mechanisms as appropriate, for example infrastructure funding.

I agree on behalf of (insert organisation):

(Print name)

Position (CEO or delegate)

Signature

Date

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The Battery Stewardship Council's commitment to all Battery Stewards

As the governing body of the Battery Stewardship Scheme, the BSC is responsible for overseeing the safe and environmentally sound operation of independent organisations performing specific functions across the battery supply chain be they importers, retailers, collection points, collectors, sorters, processors, or recyclers. The BSC will:

- develop and maintain standards for safe and environmentally sound collection, transport, and recycling for all used batteries
- accredit all Battery Stewards to operate in accordance with the required standards & their commitments and to conduct regular audits to ensure compliance and/or identify deficiencies
- work with all Battery Stewards to correct deficiencies in the conformance with standards and commitments.

The BSC will establish and implement a performance measurement framework for Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) to be set by the BSC Board. Performance against our KPIs will be communicated to all Battery Stewards through periodic updates and an annual report. Such KPI's may include, but are not limited to:

- collection rates, recovery and recycling rates
- participation rates by battery importers, retailers, collection points, collectors, sorters, and processors
- landfill diversion, reduction in battery related fires in collection facilities and landfill
- consumer and market feedback.

The BSC will deliver on the following core initiatives to support the ongoing operation of the Scheme:

- implement a secure arrangement to collect sensitive information via a third party to protect the confidentiality of data associated with the calculation and payment of the Levy by importers
- develop Scheme branding and marketing collateral to promote the Scheme and its participants nationally
- create education and awareness programs to heighten consumer knowledge of safe battery recycling
- establish a Button Battery Safety Strategy focusing on the safe in-home collection and recycling of button batteries with the primary aim of reducing injury and death from ingestion or insertion of Button Batteries
- deploy a battery tracking application to capture, record, and validate the weight of batteries collected, transported and recycled to ensure accurate rebate payments are made to collectors, sorters, and recyclers.
- define Battery Container Protocols for the design and construction of containers to reduce the risk of battery fires and enhance the safe collection and transportation of batteries.
- Conduct benchmarking and performance measurement activities including
 - life cycle assessment
 - analysis of the cost of collection, sorting & processing to underpin rebate reductions & categories
 - market research to establish baseline of attitudes, brand awareness & communications effectiveness
 - a greenhouse gas offset program.

By the BSC delivering on these commitments Battery Stewards can be confident that the:

- Government's policies relevant to the Stewardship of all end-of-life batteries are covered.
- Battery supply chain is handling end-of-life batteries in a safe and environmentally sound manner.
- Corporate Social Responsibility commitments your organisation may have can be supported.
- Battery Stewardship Scheme is operated in a financially sound manner.

On behalf of the Battery Stewardship Council, I agree to these commitments

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Libby Chaplin'.

Libby Chaplin

CEO, BATTERY STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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DOCUMENT HISTORY

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