



**THE HON TREVOR EVANS MP**  
**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR WASTE REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**MANAGEMENT**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

30 July 2021

**AUSTRALIA'S BATTERY STEWARDSHIP SCHEME NOW ACCREDITED**

The Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management, Trevor Evans, today announced that he expects all battery retailers and importers to participate in the newly accredited Battery Stewardship Scheme.

Assistant Minister Evans said that the scheme will triple the battery collection rate over a period of five years and divert 90% of the collected materials from landfill.

“Our current battery recycling rate is just not good enough. Accreditation of the scheme gives both the public and industry assurance that the scheme aligns with Australia’s circular economy principles. It is the Australian Government’s tick of approval.

“Accordingly, I am determined to see constructive engagement from all facets of the battery supply and recycling chain with the scheme—we need everyone in the supply chain to play their part in making sure that Australia gets its battery recycling right.

“I am putting all battery importers and retailers on notice that the Government expects them to participate in the scheme to meet their recycling and waste reduction obligations.

“The Battery Stewardship Scheme will recover and recycle button batteries and the batteries we all routinely find ourselves replacing as consumers including AAs and AAAs.

“This scheme will not only benefit Australia’s unique environment by recovering and recycling the batteries currently sent to landfill but will also help remove button batteries, which can be hazardous to small children, from our homes,” said Assistant Minister Evans.

Ms Libby Chaplin, CEO of the BSC said that this marks a pivotal step in the BSC’s journey towards launching a national collection network by January 2022. Accreditation demonstrates how significantly the Government supports the Scheme and as a result the BSC expects to see importer and retailer participation grow.

“The BSC is very pleased with the announcement from the Australian Government that our application for accreditation has been successful. This will give confidence to the battery collection and recycling industry to invest in infrastructure for collection and processing. It also puts greater emphasis on the Scheme’s commitment to transparency and responsible recycling which the BSC looks forward to delivering for the industry”, said Ms Chaplin.

Batteries have now been removed from the Minister's Product Stewardship Priority List. This recognises the significant action taken by the industry to take responsibility for the entire lifecycle of batteries and their contents.

The Battery Stewardship Scheme is an industry-led product stewardship arrangement administered by the Battery Stewardship Council (BSC).

**ENDS**

**Media contact:**

Assistant Minister Evans: Paul Cormack 0435 820 478