



# B-cycle Scheme Commitment Form

## As an accredited Battery Steward, we:

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

# General obligations for all Battery Stewards

## As Battery Stewards we agree to:

- + Give purchase and/or supply preference to:
  - + other accredited B-cycle Participants for the purchasing of batteries, battery powered products, and battery services
  - + buying batteries from manufacturers using recycled content where appropriate.
- + Proactively encourage partners and stakeholders to become accredited B-cycle Participants.
- + Ensure all used in-scope batteries generated or collected by your organisation are disposed of using B-cycle accredited Participants.
- + Promote B-cycle to the community, other businesses, and stakeholders.
- + Use the B-cycle approved branding as appropriate and in accordance with the B-cycle style guide.
- + Comply with all legal and other requirements.
- + Conform to B-cycle protocols for quality, traceability, environment, and Work, Health, and Safety.
- + Cooperate in a pro-active manner with announced and unannounced audits as instigated by the BSC or BSC contractors.
- + Retain and make accessible to the BSC records to demonstrate these obligations and related B-cycle procedures and guidance are being met.
- + Give appropriate access to relevant records for audit purposes as appropriate.
- + Proactively respond to research and information gathering requests from BSC or BSC contractors.

## 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.

BSC members are required to be a Participant of at least one category; as a minimum this can be a Supporter and Partner.



## Manufacturers and/or Importers

- + Contribute funding through an annual levy based on weight of imports to support B-cycle implementation.
- + 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.
- + Provide data on 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 B-cycle participation to businesses and other organisations to which they supply and purchase batteries.

## Retailers

- + Commit to accepting the cost of the levy from importers and manufacturers and pass on the levy to consumers.
- + Make the levy visible to the consumer through mechanisms such as B-cycle branding, promotional materials, receipts, or other communications as considered appropriate.
- + Only sell 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 B-cycle participation to customers, communities, and relevant supply chain companies.

## Drop off points

- + Commit and adhere to the [Code of Practice](#) requirements if a Drop of point(s) are provided.

## Incidental Receivers of batteries

- + Commit and adhere to the [Code of Practice](#) requirements if you are an Incidental Receiver of batteries.

## Government

- + All Governments in Australia have endorsed the BSC Scheme which has been:
  - + authorised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)
  - + accredited by the Australian Government as a voluntary product stewardship scheme.
- + When Governments have a direct role in the battery value chain (e.g. as Drop off point) they will:
  - + seek accreditation
  - + work only with accredited battery stewards
  - + 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 lifecycle of batteries including in particular, transport, storage and disposal.
  - + recognised that monitoring the effectiveness and harmonising policies and regulations will play an important part in meeting the objectives of battery stewardship.
  - + recognised that there is a need for additional support for industry development via existing and future funding mechanisms as appropriate, for example infrastructure funding.

## Supporters and Partners

- + Organisations that engage with and support the battery industry, but do not work directly in the battery value chain, such as research organisations, associations, or consumer groups. Support for battery stewardship, as appropriate to each organisation, could include, but is not limited to:
  - + advocating for battery stewardship and circular economy principles
  - + improving best practices in quality, environment, safety, and traceability
  - + working to increase onshore processing infrastructure and capacity
  - + engaging with the BSC to enable improvements to be made in policy, programs, and communications.



## General obligations of Collectors, Sorters, Recyclers Downstream vendors & end processors

- + Operate in conformity with the B-cycle Collection and Recycling Network B-cycle Protocols.
- + Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- + Report any battery-related fire, contamination, and other relevant significant incidents to the relevant authorities and the BSC to manage crisis communications and improve understanding of the risks.
- + Commit to the applicable obligations for Collectors, Sorters, Recyclers, Downstream Processors and end processors as shown below.
- + Prioritise onshore environmentally sound management of used in-scope batteries.

## Collectors

- + Guarantee all used batteries received go to a B-cycle accredited Sorter and/or Recycler
- + Only accept collected in-scope batteries only from B-cycle accredited organisations.
- + Use the B-cycle approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries collected for recycling.
- + Ensure containers used to collect and transport batteries legally compliant and conform to the B-cycle Container Protocols.
- + Report to the BSC on collection rates and costs.

## Sorters

- + Accept collected batteries only from B-cycle accredited organisations.
- + Guarantee all used batteries received go to a B-cycle accredited Recycler for environmentally sound disposal.
- + Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- + Report to the BSC on sorting categories, chemistries, rates, and costs.

## Primary processors

- + Only accept in-scope batteries from B-cycle accredited drop-off points, Collectors and Sorters to recycle collected batteries.

- + Guarantee and provide evidence to confirm that all used batteries received are processed using environmentally sound management and giving priority to domestic B-cycle accredited facilities.
- + Demonstrate environmentally sound management of recovered battery materials in accordance with the Protocols.
- + Report to BSC on collection and recovery of batteries processed (quantity, chemistry, fate, and costs).

## Secondary and end processors

- + Only receive in-scope battery recovered materials, that are sourced from B-cycle accredited Drop-off points, Collectors, Sorters, and/or Primary Processors for processing, unless they originate from sources outside of Australia.
- + Proactively encourage customers to become accredited B-cycle Participants.
- + Guarantee all recovered battery material received are processed using environmentally sound management that seeks to maximise value of materials and use of domestic markets for outputs.
- + Ensure verifiable outputs and recovery rates for all recovered battery materials received.
- + Use the B-cycle approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries and recovered material from processed batteries.
- + Report to BSC on recovery of batteries and their processed materials (quantity, chemistry, fate, and costs) - in general and for claim specific processing.



# The BSC commitment to all Battery Stewards

As the governing body of the Battery Stewardship Scheme, the Battery Stewardship Council (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, drop-off points, collectors, sorters, 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, conduct regular audits to ensure compliance, and work to identify and correct deficiencies
- + provide annual financial reports, prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards, that are audited by an independent registered auditor.

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
- + implement the Button Battery Safety Strategy focusing on 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.

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, Drop off points, Collectors, Sorters, and Processors (Recyclers).
- + landfill diversion, reduction in battery related fires incollection facilities and landfill
- + consumer and market feedback.
- + 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 used batteries are covered.
- + Battery supply chain is handling used batteries in a safe and environmentally sound manner.
- + Corporate Social Responsibility commitments your organisation may have can be supported.
- + B-cycle Scheme is operated in a financially sound manner.

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

**Libby Chaplin**  
CEO, BATTERY STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



# Your Commitment

I have the authority to sign this document on behalf of the organisation named below, and/or its Parent Company in Australia.

In doing so, I am authorised to commit this organisation, and the Parent Company in Australia, to uphold the requirements as detailed in this document.

## Authorising Signatory

Organisation	ABN
Parent Company in Australia	
Name	Position
Signature	Date

## Battery Steward Contact Details

Organisation		
Website	Phone	
Primary Contact	Position	
Email	Mobile	
Address		
Suburb	State	Postcode
Second Contact	Position	
Email	Mobile	

## BSC Membership

The Battery Stewardship Council (BSC) is the governing body operating the B-cycle Scheme. To become a BSC member, it is a minimum requirement that you are a participant of at least one category.

Membership of BSC is optional, select one of the following.

<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Demonstrate your support for Battery Stewardship</li><li>+ Stay Informed with Battery Related news</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ No fee</li></ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership <i>(paying members will receive an invoice)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Associate Membership plus:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ Access to voting rights</li><li>+ Eligibility to nominate for the BSC Board</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>+ No fee for manufacturers or importers</li><li>+ \$1000.00 per annum for all other Battery Stewards</li></ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to be a BSC Member		

Please return completed form and a high-quality digital logo to: [contact@bsc.org.au](mailto:contact@bsc.org.au)