

Incidental Receivers Information Sheet

Australia's official product stewardship scheme for batteries

What is an Incidental Receiver of batteries?

Incidental Receivers of batteries are businesses and organisations that intentionally collect materials and recyclables other than batteries. This may include e-waste, scrap metal and kerbside waste and recycling, but through which they unintentionally receive used batteries in their collections of their target materials.



How is this different from a B-cycle Drop off point?

A **B-cycle Drop off point** is a location that provides a specific safe container and information for users to safely dispose of used, loose batteries.

The category was not intended to include used batteries collected 'incidentally' from other collection services such as hard waste, recycling, glass, scrap metal, and e-waste.

Why is B-cycle introducing an Incidental Receivers rebate?

The B-cycle network provides an immensely accessible and safe network for all Australians to access intentional B-cycle Drop off points. However, the BSC is aware there is a significant amount of used batteries being disposed of via these other, unintended channels.

Unfortunately, research recently released by BSC shows that 55% of Australian's are still disposing of their batteries in general waste and recycling bins. This is causing a significant safety issue and a rapid increase in fires in the waste and recycling industry.

The ideal solution is to change behaviour so that these batteries are collected through our growing B-cycle Drop off point network, however this will take time.

Therefore, the BSC Board decided in late 2023 to allow used batteries from incidental Receivers into the Scheme, however, at a reduced rebate amount of \$1 / kg.

This decision is intended to support Incidental Receivers to divert batteries from landfill and fill a gap in the current B-cycle Participant categories.

Why are batteries received incidentally not eligible for the Collector Rebates?

Collector rebates can only be claimed for used batteries collected from a B-cycle accredited Drop off points, i.e. those that specifically target used batteries and as such have a high level of safety and risk mitigation infrastructure in place that is implemented at a higher cost.

Basis of the rebate

Incidental Receivers usually have contracts in place that pay them for the collection of these other waste materials and products, including disposal of non-conforming materials such as batteries.



BSC acknowledges the benefit of safe transport of 'incidentally received' batteries to an accredited Sorter and Recycler and that this adds additional costs.

The Incidental Receiver rebate is therefore being introduced at a rate of \$1 / kg of batteries.

This rebate is intended to assist in offsetting that cost and ensure these batteries do not go to landfill, but rather are safely recycled.

Accessing Collector Rebates

If an **Incidental Receiver** also has B-cycle Collector accreditation and is servicing B-cycle accredited Drop off points with all the required evidence for Collector claims, the Incidental Receiver can continue to submit monthly claims for collections from the B-cycle accredited Drop off points it services.

An Incidental Receiver can apply for B-cycle Collector accreditation at any time. However, they need to meet the B-cycle Collector accreditation requirements.

How to become an accredited Incidental Receiver

The steps for becoming a B-cycle accredited Incidental Receiver are:

- + complete and submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to BSC. This includes:
 - + evidence of legal and conforming practices
 - + forecast for annual collections (e.g. kg/annum or monthly basis).
 - + demonstrating conformance with the Code of Practice (see below)
- + submit a signed Commitment Form and Incidental Receivers Code of Practice.

Ongoing requirements

To access rebates, Incidental Receivers will:

- + provide monthly rebate claims with required evidence to BSC
- + demonstrate ongoing conformance with B-cycle requirements, including Container Protocols (at aggregation and receiving points), safe storage and transport of batteries
- + discourage incidental disposal by users and promote B-cycle accredited Drop off points as the most appropriate disposal option for batteries
- + provide annual forecasts of batteries to be received
- + participate in audits and health-checks as requested by BSC.

For more information

To find out more go to bcycle.com.au or contact us at contact@bcycle.com.au