

# B-cycle Scheme Commitment Form

## As an accredited Battery Steward, we:

- + agree to participate in the Scheme and abide by the general and specific obligations selected below
- + acknowledge that this commitment document is subject to 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.
- + Ensure that all used batteries are provided to B-cycle accredited recyclers 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 B-cycle approved Scheme branding and logo as appropriate and adhere to the conditions that apply to that use.
- + Comply with legal and other requirements, including B-cycle standards and procedures for quality, traceability, environment, and Work, Health, and Safety.
- + Cooperate with random or risk-based audits as instigated by the BSC and with surveys undertaken from time to time.
- + 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.
- + 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.

## ☐ **Manufacturers and/or Importers**

- + Contribute funding through an annual levy based on weight of imports to support Scheme implementation.
- + 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 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.

## ☐ **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 Scheme branding, promotional materials, receipts, or other communications as considered appropriate by the battery steward.
- + 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 participation in the Scheme to consumers, communities, and relevant supply chain companies.
- + Commit to corporate and community battery drop-off location obligations if drop-off points are provided.

## ☐ **Corporate and community battery Drop-off locations (public & private)**

- + Provide a safe drop-off point for used batteries disposed of by users and/or
- + Provide safe pick-up of used batteries through the servicing of equipment.
- + Conform to B-cycle drop-off point standards, including the use of containers approved by the BSC.

- + Acknowledge that legacy batteries from stockpiles are not eligible for the rebate without prior consent.
- + Guarantee all used batteries received go to B-cycle accredited Collectors, Sorters, and Recyclers.
- + Use the B-cycle 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.

## ☐ **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 life-cycle 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 B-cycle 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.
- + 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 enable a better understanding of the risks to improve B-cycle procedures and industry support tools to mitigate the on the ground risks.
- + Be a member of the Australian Battery Recycling Initiative.
- + Commit to the obligations as appropriate for Collectors, Sorters, Recyclers, Downstream Processors and end processors as shown below.

### ☐ Collectors

- + Guarantee all used batteries received go to a B-cycle accredited Sorter and/or Recycler
- + Accept collected batteries only from B-cycle accredited organisations.
- + Maximise the use of domestic markets for battery recycling.
- + Use the B-cycle approved tracking system to ensure accurate tracking of batteries collected for recycling.
- + 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.
- + Maximise the use of domestic markets for battery recycling.
- + 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.

### ☐ Recyclers

- + Only accept batteries from B-cycle accredited drop-off points, Collectors and Sorters to recycle collected batteries.
- + Guarantee all used batteries received are processed by a B-cycle accredited reprocessing facility for environmentally sound disposal.
- + Ensure the environmentally sound management of commodities obtained from the recycling of batteries and maximise the use of domestic markets for process outputs.
- + Report to BSC on collection and recovery of batteries processed (quantity, chemistry, fate, and costs).

### ☐ Downstream vendors & end processors

- + Only receive used batteries or battery materials that are sourced from B-cycle accredited drop-off points, Collectors, Sorters, and/or Processors for processing, unless they originate from sources outside of Australia.
- + Ensure environmentally sound management of recycled batteries that seeks to maximise value of materials and use of domestic markets for outputs.
- + Ensure verifiable outputs for all battery materials received.
- + Guarantee all material from used batteries received are processed by a B-cycle accredited reprocessing facilities for environmentally sound management.
- + 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 recyclers
- + landfill diversion, reduction in battery related fires in collection 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. Membership of BSC is optional, please select one of the following.

<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Membership	+ Demonstrate your support for Battery Stewardship + Stay Informed with Battery Related news	+ No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership	+ Associate Membership plus: + Access to voting rights + Eligibility to nominate for the BSC Board	+ No fee for manufacturers or importers + \$1000.00 per annum for all other Battery Stewards
<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)