



## **Hazardous Waste Update**

### **Disposal of Used or Spent lead-acid Batteries**

### **For Manufacturers & Suppliers of Batteries**

Over the last two years, the Ministry has been working with the lead-acid battery supply and service sector to clarify the Hazardous Waste Regulation (HWR) for requirements collecting, storing, transporting and recycling used or spent lead-acid batteries. This bulletin presents the revised guidance that is a result of this work.

#### **Does this guidance apply to me?**

This guidance applies to you if your primary business activity is the *original* manufacture and supply of new, never-been-used or spent lead-acid batteries. A current list of qualifying manufacturers and suppliers is at the end of this bulletin.

It does not apply to suppliers of only recycled or refurbished batteries or parties whose principal business is the management of used or spent batteries.

#### **When is a used or spent lead-acid battery considered hazardous waste?**

A used or spent lead-acid battery is considered “waste” as soon as its original user no longer has any use for it. However, it is only “hazardous waste” under certain circumstances.

A used or spent lead-acid battery *is* hazardous waste when:

- It is being shipped from its original user, or any other generator, to a battery recycler, an interim or intermediate storage facility, a processor for breaking or dismantling batteries, or a smelter for recovery of lead or other materials.
- It has been dropped off at a return collection facility (RCF) by a member of the public and is shipped directly or indirectly to a recycler, interim or intermediate storage facility, processor, or smelter.
- It has been returned to the original manufacturer or supplier, who has then determined that the battery cannot be reused or refurbished.

#### **What are the rules for Manufactures and Suppliers?**

You are expected to assess all incoming used or spent lead-acid batteries immediately after receipt. If they cannot be reused or refurbished, you must store and transport them in compliance with the HWR.

### **When is a used or spent lead-acid battery *not* considered hazardous waste?**

A used or spent lead-acid battery *is not* hazardous waste when it is being returned directly to the original manufacturer or supplier, or if it was dropped off by a member of the public at a RCF and then transported directly back to the original manufacturer or supplier from the RCF.

### **Am I a producer, a generator or a receiver?**

You are a battery *producer* if you are a manufacturer or supplier that satisfies the obligations of a “producer” under the Recycling Regulation. To be a producer, you must also either be a member in good standing of an approved stewardship plan under Part 2 of the regulation or meet all the requirements under Part 3 of the regulation.

You become a hazardous waste *generator* when a lead-acid battery has been returned *by its original user* to you, as an original manufacturer or supplier of batteries, *and* you then determine that the battery cannot be reused or refurbished. If in any 30-day period you generate more than 2,000 kg of hazardous waste batteries (approximately 90 typical vehicle batteries), or if you store this quantity at any time, you must register them as hazardous waste with the Ministry, get a BC generator registration number (BCG#) and store the batteries in compliance with the HWR. Establishing a storage area at your facility will likely require the preparation of designated plans (plans and specifications, contingency plans and closure plans) and may, in some situations, include posting financial security at the discretion of a director.

You become a hazardous waste *receiver* if you accept in any one day, or store at any time, more than 2,000 kg of used batteries that were *not* returned directly to you from original users or a RCF operated for the public (for example, if the batteries are shipped to you from a used or waste battery collector’s or refurbisher’s facility). If you become a receiver, you must register and get a registered site number (RS#) with the Ministry, and operate in compliance with the HWR as an “authorized consignee.”

### **How do I know if a used or spent battery was “returned directly”?**

A battery has been returned directly when it has been transported directly from the original user (the consignor) to your facility (the consignee) without being unpacked or otherwise disturbed while in transit.

Transporters may build up battery loads via a “milk run”–type pickup from original battery users, as long as their shipping vehicle returns to the manufacturer’s or supplier’s facility to offload the batteries. Whether they are transporting in a single shipment or as a “milk run,” transporters must deliver the batteries to the manufacturer’s or supplier’s facility within 7 days of the date they first picked up any batteries.

### **What are the rules for transportation of used batteries?**

All used or spent lead-acid batteries, whether or not they are hazardous waste, are “dangerous goods” and are fully subject to the federal Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations , including requirements for shipping documentation, labelling and

placarding of vehicles. Batteries that are classified as hazardous waste are also subject to the provincial HWR.

If a battery is being transported directly from the battery user to you, as the original manufacturer or supplier, it may be transported by your vehicles, a contracted dangerous goods carrier, or an independent dangerous goods carrier.

If more than 1,000 kg of used or spent lead-acid batteries (about 45 typical vehicle batteries) are being transported to anyone other than the original manufacturer or supplier, they must be transported by licensed carriers, using BC hazardous waste manifests, and sent only to authorized receivers or consignees. All parties involved in managing, generating, transporting and receiving these batteries must meet all applicable requirements under the HWR.

**What if I have questions?**

Contact the Ministry at [hazwaste@victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hazwaste@victoria1.gov.bc.ca).

**Appendix 1  
Current List of Eligible Manufacturers and Suppliers  
November 2014**

<b>Canadian Battery Association BC Member Locations</b>				
<b>Doing Business As</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Postal Code</b>
Alpha Technologies	7700 Riverfront Gate	Burnaby	British Columbia	V5J 5M4
Canadian Energy	107-10550 42 Street SE	Calgary	Alberta	T2C 5C7
Canadian Energy	541-1st Avenue	Prince George	British Columbia	V2L 2Y2
Canadian Energy	1440 Battle Street	Kamloops	British Columbia	V2C 2N8
Canadian Energy	10-220 Neave Road	Kelowna	British Columbia	V1V 2L9
Canadian Energy	114-4238 Lozells Avenue	Burnaby	British Columbia	V5A 0C4
Canadian Energy	791 Cave Street	Victoria	British Columbia	V9A 5T6
East Penn Canada	165 Harwood Ave. N.	Ajax	Ontario	L1Z 1L9
East Penn Canada	20120-102B Ave Unit 4	Langley	British Columbia	V1M 4B4
East Penn Canada	1035 Henry Eng Place	Victoria	British Columbia	V9B 6B2
East Penn Canada	1505 Hardy Street	Kelowna	British Columbia	V1Y 7W9
Edmonds Batteries Ltd	101 – 20131 Industrial Avenue	Langley	British Columbia	V3A 4K6
EnerSys Canada Inc	61 Parr Blvd., Unit 3	Bolton	Ontario	L7E 4E3
EnerSys Canada Inc	408-13303 78th Ave	Surrey	British Columbia	V3W 5B9
Exide Technologies / GNB Industrial Power	6950 Creditview Road	Mississauga	Ontario	L5N 0A6
Exide Technologies / GNB Industrial Power	14480 Knox Way	Richmond	British Columbia	V6V 2Z5
Exide Technologies / GNB Industrial Power	9995 Dallas Drive	Kamloops	British Columbia	V2C 6T4
Exide Technologies / GNB Industrial Power	1024 Great St Unit 102	Prince George	British Columbia	V2N 2J8
Federal Battery	11560 Voyageur Way	Richmond	British Columbia	V6X 3E1
Magnacharge Battery Corp	1279 Derwent Way	Delta	British Columbia	V3M 5V9
OEM Battery	10 – 20075 92A Avenue	Langley	British Columbia	V1M 3A5
Phil's Batteries and More Inc	114 – 12332 Pattullo Place	Surrey	British Columbia	V3V 8C3
Polar Battery Vancouver Ltd	1258 Boundary Road	Burnaby	British Columbia	V5K 4T6
RME Energy Ltd	155 - 21331 Gordon Way	Richmond	British Columbia	V6W 1J9
The Battery Doctors	1972 Windsor Road	Kelowna	British Columbia	V1Y 4R5
Vernon Battery Ltd	4313 25th Avenue	Vernon	British Columbia	V1T 1P5
<b>Interstate Battery Systems BC Locations</b>				
<b>Doing Business As</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Postal Code</b>
Interstate Battery System of British Columbia	20148 - 102nd Avenue	Langley	British Columbia	V1M 4B4
Interstate Battery System of Eastern BC	860 Leathead Rd., Bldg D, Unit 2A	Kelowna	British Columbia	V1X 2J8
interstate Battery System of Coastal BC	1651 Old Island Highway	Victoria	British Columbia	V9B 1H9