

SB 1215 Collector Webinar  
January 21, 2026  
Talking Points

## Slide 1

Good morning, everyone! Thank you for taking time from your busy schedules to participate today. My name is Jennifer Sheehan, and I am a supervisor of a unit that reviews covered electronic waste recycling payment claims. I will provide training and guidance on what Senate Bill 1215 changed for Approved Collectors who participate in the CEW Recycling Program, and what the requirements for collecting Covered Battery Embedded Products are. The acronym we use is CBEPs. The presentation, talking points, and video of this presentation will be posted and sent to participants so that you can review again as needed.

## Slide 2

Today we will discuss:

- SB 1215 Statutory and Regulatory Overview
- Then we will provide an opportunity to ask questions and receive answers to your questions.
- Updated Collector Forms for Payment Claims
- We'll provide another opportunity to ask questions.
- Future Trainings and Outreach
- Then we will have one more opportunity to ask questions and receive answers.
- There are two ways that you can ask a question.
  - You can raise your hand, and you will be unmuted.
  - Or you can type the question in the meeting Q and A.

## Slide 3

First, we will cover legislation.

## Slide 4

In 2022, Senate Bill (or SB) 1215 amended the Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003 to add covered battery-embedded products to the Covered Electronic Waste Recycling Program.

- SB 1215 aimed to reduce battery fires and injuries to sanitation workers and to ensure that batteries are collected for recycling to

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build circular systems for precious metals and other commodities rather than ending up in the waste stream.

- CalRecycle conducted rulemaking to implement SB 1215: it established a covered battery-embedded waste recycling fee based on the reasonable regulatory costs to administer covered electronic waste recycling. The fee is set at 1.5 percent of the retail sales price for each covered battery-embedded product sold in the state by a retailer. The fee is capped at \$15.
  - The fee will be re-evaluated annually.
  - I would also like to mention that there is only one recovery payment rate for all CEW, including CBEPs and we will continue to annually review the recovery payment rate and determine if any changes are needed.
- CalRecycle also developed regulations to implement, make specific, and clarify SB 1215 as well as modernize the existing CEW Recycling Program.
- Beginning on January 1, 2026, consumers will pay the recycling fee for covered battery-embedded products at the time of purchase.
- Beginning on January 1, 2026, collectors can start recovering battery-embedded CEW that was discarded on or after January 1, 2026.  
**Please note that the CBEP CEW must be collected on or after January 1, 2026, to be eligible for payment.**
- On April 1, 2026, the CEW Recycling Program will begin accepting payment claims for CBEP CEW collected on or after January 1, 2026.

### Slide 5

The most common question we get from stakeholders is, “What is a covered battery-embedded product?” To provide that insight we will cover the definitions and also the role that the manufactures have in determining if a product is a CBEP.

We will start from the definition of covered electronic waste, as outlined in the SB 1215 statute.

- “Covered Electronic Waste” means a covered electronic device that is discarded.
- **“Covered electronic device”** means either of the following two categories:
  - **A video display device** containing a screen greater than four inches, measured diagonally and that DTSC has included in their regulations.

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- Video display devices comprise two categories: CRT and non-CRT.
- “**Covered battery-embedded product**” is a product containing a battery from which the battery is not designed to be easily removed from the product by the user of the product with no more than commonly used household tools.”
  - I would also like to mention that our colleagues are working on the regulations for AB 2440 program for loose batteries and we will continue to apprise you through listservs.

### Slide 6

This slide shows the list of covered video display devices. The list includes various technologies and these are not CBEPs:

- CRT TVs and monitors;
- LCD TVs, monitors, laptops, and tablets;
- Plasma TVs;
- DVD players with LCD screens;
- OLED TVs, monitors, laptops, and tablets
- Smart devices with LCD screens.

### Slide 7

The devices that are **excluded** from the definition of a covered battery-embedded product are listed in Public Resources Code section 42463(f)(2) and include:

- Certain medical devices used or prescribed in healthcare settings;
- Video display devices that are covered electronic devices (CEDs). These are the devices that have been historically included in the CEW Recycling Program since 2005. Collectors and Recyclers should not claim a video display device as a covered battery-embedded product or the same device twice as both a video display device and a covered battery-embedded product;
- Energy storage systems, as defined in subdivision (a) of section 2835 of the Public Utilities Code;
- Electronic nicotine delivery systems, as defined in section 375(7) of Title 15 of the United States Code, which include electronic cannabis vaping devices.

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## Slide 8

A motor vehicle is not a covered battery-embedded product.

- Motor vehicle” does **not** include any of the following:
  - (i) A motorized scooter.
  - (ii) A motorized skateboard.
  - (iii) A motorized hoverboard.

This means that motorized scooters, motorized skateboards and motorized hoverboards are CBEP CEW if they meet the definition of a “CBEP” meaning they have a battery that is not easily removed.

## Slide 9

Next, we will review the CBEP regulations.

## Slide 10

To clarify the SB 1215 statutory definition of “covered battery-embedded product” the SB 1215 Covered Battery-Embedded Products Regulations defined the following:

- “Commonly used household tools” or “common household tools”
- “Designed to be easily removed from a product by the user of the product, with no more than commonly used household tools”

## Slide 11

**“Common household tools”** means tools that most people have at home.

Tools that are common household tools are:

- Flathead, crosshead, and Phillips screwdrivers
- Paper clips
- Coins
- Hex keys (also called Allen wrenches)

Tools that **are not** considered “Common household tools” are:

- Tools like hammers, mallets, scissors, pliers, knives, ratchets, saws, or chisels. While people may have these at home a consumer would not likely be using them to open up a product to get out the battery.
- Special screwdrivers that:
  - Can’t be bought by the general public

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- Are only made for one brand or company
- Are protected by a U.S. patent
- Tools that are only given to:
  - People who buy a certain product
  - Employees or contractors of a company
  - People with a special license or certificate
- Tools that need batteries, electricity, or fuel to work
- Tools that need heat, chemicals, or a lot of force to remove a battery from a product

## Slide 12

### What “Easily Removed by the User” Means

A battery is “easily removed by the user” if it can be taken out of a product by the person using it, using only common household tools (like a screwdriver), and without needing special skills or training.

### Examples of Batteries That Are Easily Removed

- **Marketed for removal:** This means that the product states the battery can be removed by the user with common tools.
- **Instructions or warranty allow it:** Meaning that the product’s manual or warranty states users can remove the battery with common tools.
- **No tools needed:** Means if the battery can be pulled out by hand, like a plug-in battery or one that snaps in.

### What Does Not Count as Easily Removed?

- If the battery is glued in or attached in a way that needs special tools or a trained technician to remove it, it does not count as easily removable.

### Special Cases

Even if a battery seems removable, it does not count as easily removable if either:

- The tool required to remove the battery is not a common household tool and using a common tool would void (cancel) the product’s warranty.

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or

- The product has a label, manual, or notice that tells users not to remove the battery, even if they **could** do it with common tools.

But if the product has a key, app, or lock to stop theft or tampering—but not to stop the user from removing the battery—then it still counts as easily removable.

### Slide 13

This is a decision tree on our website that manufacturers can use to help them determine if a product is a CBEP. On the website each question has a drop down with examples to help you move through deciding if something is or is not a CBEP.

### Slide 14

A change in the program is that manufacturers not only send notices to the retailers but they also send their notices to CalRecycle so we can share that information with all of the stakeholders.

For all of our stakeholders this is a big change. We have been working with manufacturers on this process and this year manufacturers will have a due date to submit their notices.

Let me give you an overview. I would also like to note that the information contained in the documents was provided by **manufacturers** and questions about **specific product determinations** should be directed to **manufacturers**.

- By posting these lists of products, CalRecycle does not endorse the accuracy of the list or confirm that these products are covered battery-embedded products (CBEPs)
- We have been working with manufacturers to increase the accuracy where there has been confusion like listing video display device as a CBEP.
- These lists may not be complete lists of all CBEP and are based on the notices that manufacturers provided to CalRecycle.
- The absence of a CBEP from these lists does not relieve a manufacturer's responsibility to notice retailers (per PRC section

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4266.2), or a retailer's obligation to collect the covered battery-embedded waste recycling fee on a CBEP from a consumer.

- This list will be updated periodically as we get updated information from manufacturers, and a listserv notice will be sent out, and we will identify what has changed on the list.

## Slide 15

This is an example of the Manufacturer PDF Table Notice that consolidates the data from the Manufacturer Notices per product category.

- It is an easy-to-read chart that lists categories of products, manufacturer and brand names, and examples of products within each category.

## Slide 16

This is an example of Manufacturer Notices Excel Spreadsheet that lists all noticed products that had been provided to CalRecycle. The Excel spreadsheet is sortable by brand, manufacturer, and device type, and contains product model numbers and UPC numbers (if provided).

## Slide 17

### CEW Collector Requirements

SB 1215 Regulations have not fundamentally changed existing requirements for an approved collector. It is important to note that CBEP is a type of CEW. We now have CRT CEW, non-CRT CEW, and CBEP CEW. Existing CEW collection requirements apply to CBEPs.

- Approved collectors must document the CBEPs they collect.
- Designated Approved Collectors (DACs) and Local Governments that are approved collectors are exempt from documenting the names and addresses of the California sources but are still required to provide other documentation related to circumstances of collection. Please note that if 5 or more units are collected from a nonresidential source, the name and address of the source must be provided.
- Existing DACs can collect CBEPs under existing Designations. A designation covers the collection of CEW, meaning that the collection of CRT CEW, non-CRT CEW, and/or CBEP CEW is covered by a

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designation. The designation scope does not need to be updated to reflect if CBEPs are collected. However, I would like to point out that if there are changes in collection locations and/or method of collection, the scope of the Designation needs to be modified.

- We sent out a listserv message on **November 13, 2025**, about this and reminders on December 15 and December 30, 2025.

## Slide 18

SB 1215 regulations included the following changes which affect approved collectors:

- The definition of California source has been clarified and is shown here on the slide.
- **The blue text on this slide shows what the SB 1215 regulations added for clarification: explaining** that “use” or “using” means business or personal ownership, or the leasing of a Covered Electronic Device so long as the lessees operate the Covered Electronic Device within the State of California.”
- On the collection logs collectors must record the number of CEW collected, and the specific type of CEW collected, whether the CEW is CRT CEW, non-CRT CEW, or CBEP CEW.
- Collectors are no longer required to record the estimated weights of the CEW collected on the collection logs.

## Slide 19

- We will take a few minutes to answer any questions that you may have about the material that we have covered so far. You can ask a question in one of the following ways.
  - Raise your hand so that you can be unmuted.
  - Type your question into the Q&A feature of this meeting.
  - My colleagues, Ana-Maria Stoin-Chu, and Rebecca Wall, both managers in the CEW Recycling Program, and I will be happy to answer your questions.

## Slide 20

UPDATED COLLECTOR FORMS FOR PAYMENT CLAIMS

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## Slide 21

- It is critical that the information contained in an approved application is updated and submitted to CalRecycle if there are any changes. This includes if a collector, recycler, or dual entity intended to begin collecting and recycling covered battery embedded products on January 1, 2026, or after.
  - We sent out a listserv notice about this on November 13, 2025, and reminders on December 15 and December 30, 2025.
  - If you have not yet updated your application to include the collection of CBEP, and will be collecting CBEP, please get this to us immediately.
- As a reminder, pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 18660.18, an approved collector, dual entity, or an approved recycler shall notify CalRecycle in writing of changes to information contained in an approved application at least 30 calendar days prior to the effective date of any proposed changes, or if an unforeseen change occurs, an approved collector or an approved recycler shall notify CalRecycle in writing of the change within ten calendar days after the unforeseen change.
- CalRecycle revised application forms to include CBEPs

## Slide 22

The new application forms are best suited for new applicants and renewals for existing participants.

- If you are already an approved collector, not in the renewal cycle, and your intention is to only add collection of CBEP, use the collector update template that was provided on November 14, 2025.
- Changes must be sent electronically through email to [ewasteapplications@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:ewasteapplications@calrecycle.ca.gov).

## Slide 23

CalRecycle updated the existing payment claims forms that are used by collectors and recyclers.

- The following forms for Collectors are posted on our website:
  - Transfer Receipt (CalRecycle 197 form)

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- Transfer Summary (CalRecycle 197S form)
- Collection Log (CalRecycle 198 form)
- Source Anonymous Collection Log (CalRecycle 198SA form)
- Starting January 1, 2026, these are the forms that collectors may use. On the next slides I will give an overview of the changes on the forms.

### Slide 24

- The Transfer Receipt form documents the transfer of CEW to an Approved Recycler. The changes include:
  - It is not necessary to identify if operating as a dual entity, so that box was removed.
  - “Certified number of units” and “certified weights” was clarified to mean the total number of units and total weight of units transferred. The total units and total weight must be supported by a weighmaster certificate issued by the recycler.
  - On the transfer receipt, “certified” was removed and “weights” was added. Pounds was added to make it clear that we require the weight to be in pounds.
  - A CBEP CEW line was added to identify the collection of this material. As such, the transfer receipt must include the CBEP CEW units transferred and the CBEP CEW weight transferred.
  - To match verbiage in regulations, we updated the Collector Activity paragraph.
  - Document “Attachments” was changed to provided, as we are in an electronic age where documents may not be literally attached anymore.

### Slide 25

- The Collection Log form documents CEW collected from the CA sources for recycling purposes. The changes include:
  - The word “Organization” in the Approved Collector/Handler identification section was removed.
  - Primary has been removed.

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- The “Description of CEW Collection Activity” has been moved from the source listing column to section I., as it belongs with the Collector Information.
- “Type of CA” was added to the “Source Type” column.
- The requirement to provide estimated pounds was removed from the Collection Log. Only the number of units is required.
- **CBEP CEW Units column was added to identify the collection of this type of CEW. As outlined earlier, the CBEP CEW collected must be documented (i.e., collector must provide the required CA source information), including the number of units discarded by each CA source.**
- A column was added for CalRecycle to add source validation findings to the collection logs.

### Slide 26

- The Source Anonymous Collection Log form documents the Source Anonymous CA sources that have illegally discarded CEW. The changes that were made to the collection logs on the previous slide were also made to the Source Anonymous Collection logs so I will not go over them again. **Reminder:** “Source-anonymous CEWs” means CEWs whose originating California source cannot be identified in collection log information required. When collecting source-anonymous CEWs, all approved collectors shall:
  - Log the source-anonymous CEW collection activity separately.
  - Provide a brief written description of the activity or incident that resulted in the source-anonymous CEWs.
  - Record the date and location of the activity or incident, the number of source-anonymous CEWs collected from the location of the activity or incident.
  - Record the name, organizational affiliation, address and phone number of a person responsible for the site of the activity or incident.

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### Slide 27

- We will now provide another opportunity to answer any questions that you may have about the material that we have covered so far. You can ask a question by:
  - Raising your hand so that you can be unmuted.
  - Typing your question into the Q&A feature of this meeting.

### Slide 28

Future Trainings and Outreach

### Slide 29

In January 2026, CalRecycle posted the updated recycler forms. While those forms are for Recyclers, if you would like to look at the new CBEP claims worksheet to see what Recyclers need to submit you can see the forms on our website.

- Worksheet A is used for CRT claims
- Worksheet B is used for non-CRT claims
- Worksheet C is used for CBEP claims and is the *new form*.

### Slide 30

- I wanted to remind everyone about upcoming important dates:
  - On January 1, 2026, the collection of CBEP CEW began.
  - On January 28, 2026, we will hold a webinar to assist recyclers with CBEP claim requirements.
  - In March of 2026, we will hold a webinar to assist recyclers with the electronic submittal of claims. We will send out a listserv once the date has been finalized.
  - We will continue to hold training webinars annually for collectors and recyclers.
  - If you have ideas for future webinars or need one on one assistance, please send a note to the e-Waste inbox.
- We are excited about modernizing the CEW Recycling Program. A reminder about some of the changes:
  - Beginning on April 1, 2026, CBEP payment claims of CBEP CEW collected on or after January 1, 2026, may be submitted.

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- All payment claims, (CRT, non-CRT and CBEP CEW) must be submitted electronically.
- CalRecycle is currently building the submittal system through our CEWIS database, and we will be training recyclers on the electronic system in early March.
- Collectors will be welcome to attend the webinar but keep in mind this will be focused on teaching Recyclers how to use the electronic system, and Collectors do not use the system.

## Slide 31

### Future Education Campaign

- CalRecycle is developing a consumer campaign for CBEPs. The goal is to educate consumers on:
  - Why consumers pay the fee on battery embedded products.
  - What battery embedded products are.
  - Why it is important not to throw embedded battery products away.
  - Fire related incidents
  - Recovery of precious metals
  - Building the circular economy
  - Where to recycle
- This 2–3-year education campaign will be accomplished through advertising, social media, and flyers.
- We will keep you updated as we roll this out in 2027.

## Slide 32

### Questions and answers from stakeholders

## Slide 33

- To assist regulated stakeholders, such as manufacturers, retailers, approved collectors, and approved recyclers, CalRecycle developed a new webpage and a question-and-answer document for CBEP CEW questions.
- The questions in the Q&A document are from inquiries received from stakeholders. This is a living document, and questions and answers will be added as we receive them.

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- A listserv will be sent out when new questions and answers have been added.

### Slide 34

We'd like to provide one more chance to ask questions during this webinar. If you would like to ask a question about what was covered, please raise your hand, or type a question in the Q&A.

### Slide 35

This communication is neither intended to, nor does it constitute definitive legal counseling, conclusions, or advice in any way. Instead, the contents of this communication and any analysis, guidance, or other information is intended to objectively address the questions presented based on the current existing, known facts and legal authority as described to and understood by the author and/or CalRecycle at the time of this communication. Please be advised that any relevant facts or legal authority or authorities that are undisclosed or unknown at the time of this communication may affect or alter any analysis, guidance, or other information herein. Please be further advised that any analysis, guidance, or other information herein may be subject to change and/or correction based on changed facts or legal authority, actual or understood, subsequent to the time of this communication. No analysis, guidance, or other information herein should be construed as a waiver of any rights or remedies available to CalRecycle. Recipients of this communication are encouraged to seek the assistance of legal counsel to comply with applicable state law based on current facts and circumstances.

### Slide 36

This concludes my presentation. Thank you for your participation! Collectors are critical to our success in keeping these materials out of the landfill. If you have questions, please send them to [EwasteClaims@CalRecycle.ca.gov](mailto:EwasteClaims@CalRecycle.ca.gov) and a team member will get back to you promptly.

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