

B.C. Energy Efficiency Act (EEA) Standards for Battery Charging Systems: Supplemental Bulletin #2

New United States Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) test methodology for battery charging systems – how does this affect the British Columbia regulation?

In B.C., battery chargers are regulated under Part 2 of the Energy Efficiency Standards Regulation (EESR) which references the CSA C381.2-14 test procedure. CSA C381.2-14 was functionally identical to the test methodology referenced in the [California battery charger regulation](#). The EESR currently allows two labeling compliance paths for battery chargers to minimize industry burden:

1. Testing and certifying the products in a Standards Council of Canada accredited laboratory and bearing the testing agency's identifier on the product or packaging. The label or mark, along with the model and serial number of the device, allows Ministry inspectors to confirm compliance directly with certification organizations.

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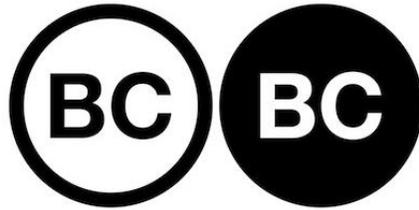
2. Bearing the "BC" label as required by the California regulation, in concert with the product's listing on the [California Energy Commission's \(CEC\) Appliance Efficiency database](#). This also applies to products that are intended for distribution and sale in Canada only.

In March of 2016, the U.S. DOE published a final rule for a battery charger test methodology which became effective on November 16, 2016. This U.S. DOE test methodology pre-empts the existing test methodology in place in California as of this date.

To address the changes to the California battery charger regulation as they relate to labeling compliance option #2 detailed above, Ministry of Energy and Mines staff will be working with CSA to expedite an update to CSA C381.2 to harmonize with the new U.S. DOE test procedure.¹ In the interim, B.C. will continue to accept the California label as a compliance path for the regulation. This means that manufacturers using the U.S DOE test methodology to comply with the California battery charger regulation will be deemed compliant in B.C. if the following criteria are met:

- bearing the "BC" label as required by the California regulation (shown below), and
- product listing on the [California Energy Commission's \(CEC\) Appliance Efficiency database](#).

¹ The *Energy Efficiency Act* only provides authority for the EESR to adopt standards published by a national or international standards association, so B.C. is not currently in a position to reference the new U.S. DOE test procedure.



All manufacturers shipping products to B.C. are encouraged to use the U.S. DOE test methodology to avoid testing products to two different test methodologies until CSA 381.2 is updated.

The U.S. DOE published a final rule for minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) of battery chargers. How will this affect the B.C. regulation?

On June 13, 2016, the U.S. DOE published a final rule for battery chargers that becomes effective on June 13, 2018. On this date, the U.S. DOE rule will pre-empt the MEPS that are in place in California. Ministry of Energy and Mines staff will be monitoring related regulatory developments prior to June 13, 2018, including Natural Resource Canada's intent to adopt a national regulation for battery chargers in [Amendment 14](#), and will make recommendation for future EESR amendments accordingly.