

SWEDISH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Report on Implementation of the Battery Directive

## 7. Collection and recycling

### 7.1 Collection targets

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency proposes that higher targets for battery collection be set for Sweden than those set forth in the Directive. High collection targets are justified from an environmental perspective, because this reduces the spread of heavy metals in the natural environment and leads to better resource management.

The Directive sets forth the lowest targets for battery collection that the Member States must attain. These targets are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Collection requirements according to the Directive

Year	Collection (%)
2012	25
2016	45

The guidance figures given in the Directive are adapted so that countries that currently have no battery collection can also reach the target figures. The rates of battery collection in Sweden are considerably higher, so the Directive's collection targets would involve a significant lowering of the level of ambition.

Our current assessment is that 60-65 percent of small batteries, and 95-100 percent of automotive and industrial batteries are collected. Setting targets in the new ordinance equivalent to those in the Directive would lower the level of ambition, which is inappropriate from an environment perspective. On the other hand, an ordinance should not set excessively high collection targets that cannot be achieved. In other words, it is difficult to set a definite rate for battery collection.

Our proposal is that the collection targets be formulated in a way that corresponds to the requirements in the rules of consideration in Chapter 2 of the Environmental Code. Furthermore, a minimum collection rate shall be given in an appendix to the ordinance. It should be possible to revise these collection requirements in response to the situation in the country, and the collection rates are shown below in Table 3.

Table 3. Proposed collection targets for batteries in Sweden

Type of battery	Year	Collection (%)
Start and industrial batteries of lead	2008	95
Industrial batteries containing cadmium	2008	95
Other batteries	2012	60
	2016	70