

Environmental Bulletin

End-of-Use Deadline for Equipment Containing Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

PCB equipment end-of-use deadline is **December 31st, 2025** under the PCB Regulations (SOR/2008-273). As this deadline approaches, planning for decommissioning, and the safe and environmental management of equipment that is subject to this deadline is required.

PCB's are synthetic compounds that are commonly found in different types of electrical equipment. The Regulations implement deadlines on equipment already in use, or that are in storage. They also require destruction of PCBs in order to accelerate the elimination of them from the environment.

Are you subject to the December 31st, 2025 end-of-use deadline?

December 31st, 2025 is the last day that you can use the following equipment containing PCBs with a concentration of 50 mg/kg (50 ppm) or more:

- Electrical capacitors, light ballasts, electrical transformers and their auxiliary electrical equipment, including pole-top transformers;
- Electromagnets;
- Heat transfer equipment, hydraulic equipment, vapour diffusion pumps and bridge bearings.

Any equipment requiring replacement to meet the regulations needs to be sent for destruction at a licensed facility authorized for the destruction of PCBs.

Equipment containing PCBs with a concentration of less than 50 mg/kg (50 ppm):

There are currently no end-of-use dates that apply to equipment containing PCBs with a concentration of less than 50 mg/kg (50 ppm). However, once taken out of service, it is recommended not to reuse it. Once any equipment containing 2 mg/kg or more of PCBs is removed from service, it must be properly destroyed.

Enforcement:

Environment and Climate Change Canada is responsible for administering and enforcing the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA, 1999). This Act and its regulations are enforced in accordance with the Compliance and Enforcement Policy for CEPA.