# Peggy Shepard

Questions to WA ECY concerning catastrophic BESS failures outside Washington state, where getting defective BESS batteries to a recycler took two years for one, MOSS Landing's recent catastrophic failure last month reignited while trying to clean up the batteries damaged a 2015 fire. To compound that, the largest lithium battery recycler in the US exploded and has stopped all operation. The only BESS battery recycler in the western US (NV) lost federal funding and is looking to use used EV batteries in BESS facilities without processing the lithium from the used batteries.

Lithium Battery Fire: Missouri's Largest Recycling Plant Explodes! (now permanently closed)
https://youtu.be/WJ9v81N8xPA?si=OoWo-5Td2u8Uzpwl

Perth's Battery Recycling Fire: 80 Tons of Lithium-ion Batteries
https://youtu.be/SwkK8e97bUE?si=pEcG1YeYqqNABmYW

French Battery Recycling plant fire
https://youtube.com/shorts/ItqymyM3Pe4?si=wk-cdVyZZ6IRvqSm

Scotland Battery Recycling plant fire
https://youtube.com/shorts/dkRowJ1nukw?si=h1ZUb-qqD2ykDJKI

Excerpt from email

From: ECY RE Battery Stewardship Program
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2026 7:49 AM
To: peggyshepard@comcast.net

Hi Peggy,

While most of your other questions are beyond the scope and expertise of our agency, I passed them to staff in our Hazardous Waste and Toxic Reductions program, for review. See responses below.

Question: Do you know where large damaged industrial lithium-ion batteries can be transported to for recycling, and how long that recycler has been in business?

Answer: Several facilities across the United States accept and recycle damaged lithium-ion batteries. Potential options include:
• Redwood Materials in Carson City, NV - NVD980885685
• Li-Cycle in Rochester, NY - NYR000242891
• Cirba Solutions in Oakland County, Michigan - MIK241575671
• Ascend Elements in Covington, GA - GAR000094110 and GAR000096420
• Omega Harvested Metallurgy in Winchester, Ohio - OHD986983401
• Recycling Coordinators in Akron, OH - OHD986999480

Ecology cannot recommend one recycler over another, nor does Ecology know how long each has

been in business.

Question: What is the procedure to handle large defective industrial lithium-ion batteries?

Answer: I recommend reading Ecology's Focus on: Lithium-Ion Batteries publication and Lithium-ion batteries webpage. Lithium batteries must be shipped as a hazardous material regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). USDOT has specific shipping requirements for damaged, defective, and recalled batteries. See Understanding the Risks of Damaged, Defective, or Recalled (DDR) Lithium Batteries | PHMSA for more information. Contact USDOT directly with questions.

All the best,
Brett