

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004444/25
to the Commission
Benoit Cassart (Renew)
(10 November 2025)**

Subject: Consumer transparency about the energy capacity of primary batteries

In Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 ⁽¹⁾, the Commission recognises the importance of providing consumers with transparent information on rechargeable battery performance.

Primary (non-rechargeable) batteries, however, although very widely used, are not required to indicate their capacity, which prevents product comparisons, undermines market transparency and could lead to consumers choosing an option that is not in either their or the environment's favour.

1. Could the Commission explain why the requirement to indicate the rated capacity in milliampere-hours (mAh) does not apply to primary batteries?
2. Does it intend to extend that requirement to primary batteries to improve consumer information and protection? If so, in what timeframe, and which legislative acts could it use to do so?

Submitted: 10.11.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(5 January 2026)**

The requirements on the labelling and marking of batteries in Article 13 of the Batteries Regulation ⁽¹⁾ are an elaboration of those included in the first Batteries Directive ⁽²⁾ and its implementing Regulation ⁽³⁾.

In particular, the requirement for the labelling of the capacity of batteries is consistent between the directive and the regulation replacing it and only applies to rechargeable batteries. This is because 'capacity' is not a meaningful or reliable parameter for consumers in the case of non-rechargeable (primary) batteries, given their very different discharge profiles and use patterns.

Instead, for non-rechargeable batteries, it is required in Article 13 of the regulation to indicate the minimum average duration, which is measured under specific conditions for representative applications of each battery model placed on the market.

As required by Article 13, an implementing act will be adopted in 2026 establishing harmonised requirements for the labelling of batteries, which will include provisions both for capacity for rechargeable batteries and for the minimum average duration for non-rechargeable batteries.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2023 concerning batteries and waste batteries, amending Directive 2008/98/EC and Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and repealing Directive 2006/66/EC (OJ L 191, 28.7.2023, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/1542/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2023 concerning batteries and waste batteries, amending Directive 2008/98/EC and Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and repealing Directive 2006/66/EC, OJ L 191, 28.7.2023, p. 1-117.

⁽²⁾ Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators and repealing Directive 91/157/EEC, OJ L 266, 26.9.2006, p. 1-14.

⁽³⁾ Commission Regulation (EU) No 1103/2010 of 29 November 2010 establishing, pursuant to Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, rules as regards capacity labelling of portable secondary (rechargeable) and automotive batteries and accumulators, OJ L 313, 30.11.2010, pp. 3-7.