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## Emergency Response for PCB release

If a PCB ballast leak or ballast fire is discovered:

- Evacuate the room or area immediately to prevent exposure
- Call 911 for an appropriate local emergency response team
- Fence off the impacted area
- Notify appropriate local and state authorities including DTSC
- Within 24 hours of discovery, hire an experienced contractor to manage the cleanup and prevent further leaking

## Lighting Retrofit Management

DTSC recommends that school districts evaluate light fixtures during routine maintenance to determine the condition of the ballasts and to establish an inventory of all identified PCB ballasts. At a minimum, a visual inspection of a representative number of light fixtures is recommended for schools built before 1985 to determine the presence of PCB ballasts.

## Funding Resources for School Lighting Retrofits

State Programs: Lighting retrofits may be included in school modernization projects funded by the Department of Education. The California Energy Commission's Bright Schools Program provides free energy audits and studies, low-interest rate loans for lighting retrofits, and other energy saving projects. See the web site [www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/brightschoools](http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/brightschoools) or call (916) 654-4008. The Department of General Services also provides similar services. See the website [www.emd.dgs.ca.gov/ProjDev/default.htm](http://www.emd.dgs.ca.gov/ProjDev/default.htm) or call (916) 323-8777.

Federal Programs: U.S. EPA's Energy Star Program offers assistance with installation of energy-efficient lighting technologies (see the website [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)).

Energy Providers: DTSC recommends that school districts contact their energy providers, since many energy companies offer incentive programs to support lighting upgrades.

## For More Information

The following two PCB publications may be requested by telephone at (800) 490-9198: "Guide for School Administrators – Removing PCBs from Light Fixtures: Protecting Students from Hidden Dangers, EPA 909B-00-003" and "Guide for School Maintenance Personnel – Removing PCBs from Light Fixtures: Protecting Students from Hidden Dangers, EPA 909B-00-002."

Additional information about managing PCB-ballasts is available at: [www.epa.gov/region09/cross\\_pr/p2/projects/pcbs.html](http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/p2/projects/pcbs.html) and [www.epa.gov/r10earth/pcb.htm](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/pcb.htm). For more information about the use, storage, transportation, and disposal of PCBs, please contact the Toxic Substances Control Act Hotline at (202) 554-1404 or contact:

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