Light ballasts are the primary electric components of fluorescent light fixtures and are generally located within the fixture under a metal cover plate. The PCBs are located in the light ballasts’ small capacitor or in the potting material, the insulating material inside the ballast. Since 1978, EPA has required manufacturers of fluorescent light ballasts to mark ballasts that do not contain PCBs with the statement “No PCBs.” Inspectors should assume that light ballasts contain PCB small capacitors if they were manufactured before 1978 or do not have a “No PCBs” statement. Please note that after July 1, 1998, fluorescent light ballast manufacturers are no longer required to mark fluorescent light ballasts with the statement “No PCBs.”