

Our Ref: HLT 8/1

Your Ref:

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27 March 2012

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To Whom It May Concern:

Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement – Local Government Support for Best Practice Container Deposit Scheme

The Shire of Manjimup in Western Australia supports the introduction of a best practice Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) to address post-consumer packaging waste impacts in Australia.

Local Governments in Western Australia play a significant role in the collection, treatment and disposal of materials within the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) stream, including post-consumer packaging waste. Local Governments undertake a variety of waste collection services including regular kerbside waste and recycling collection and periodical bulk waste collection, and as a result are responsible for the management and operation of a large variety of waste management infrastructure.

In addition, Local Governments and Regional Councils also develop and implement waste education strategies; undertake intensive community engagement on waste management in local areas; and carry out regular litter and illegal dumping clean ups, as well as the collection of waste from community events. Local Governments are also increasingly being required to undertake an enforcement role, particularly in regard to litter and illegal dumping prosecutions.

The current assumption that Local Government can continue to provide services for all waste, and in particular post-consumer packaging waste, is not sustainable. The Shire of Manjimup supports the introduction of a scheme that compels producers to think through the life cycle of their product, considering waste minimisation and intelligent product design and ensuring there are disposal or recycling options available.

In terms of the options presented in the Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement, the Shire of Manjimup considers that the CDS Option 4 – a Mandatory Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) – Involving the establishment of a deposit-refund arrangement under the co-regulatory and/or mandatory provisions of the Act and sub-options 4(a) (An Alliance CDS (a CDS proposed by the Boomerang Alliance) and 4(b) a hybrid CDS (a national model based on case studies of schemes operating internationally and elements of the existing South Australian scheme) to be the options most likely to improve resource recovery; achieve a more appropriate sharing of waste management costs; reduce litter; and increase community awareness and involvement in waste management.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on a proposed option for addressing post-consumer packaging waste in Australia. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Klaus Mueller, Waste Management Officer on (08) 9771 7743 or email klaus.mueller@manjimup.wa.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Wade DeCampo President

Shire of Manjimup