**Subject:** Support for a national container deposit scheme

 Please accept my submission in support of a national container deposit scheme. As a local councillor i have a particular interest in reducing waste to landfill as it reduces costs to our ratepayers.

 The Federal Governments “[*Regulatory Impact Statement*](http://www.ephc.gov.au/product_stewardship/packaging_impacts)” (RIS) into a national container deposit scheme understates the benefits and overstates the costs of environmental policies.

A container deposit scheme has been operating successfully for over 30 years in South Australia, South Australians currently recycle more than 80 per cent of their recyclable containers seeing the virtual disappearance of container litter.

New data shows the recycling rate of beverage containers is about 40% - down from the 48% claimed in the Packaging Regulatory Impact Statement. It’s the biggest problem in packaging.

The failure to do a financial analysis that would reveal the financial impacts on industry and consumers, when previous research has shown CDS will cost half a cent a container.

The RIS fails to include the financial benefits of more jobs and extra non-container materials going to CDS drop-off centres.

CDS is the only way to quickly and sustainably remove an extra 4 billion beverage containers a year from the litter and landfill streams and build a network of recycling depots around Australia.

The best container recycling system in the world will only cost half a cent a container and environment ministers should stop doing studies and implement it.

Every day the Commonwealth delays a national container deposits system another 9 million recyclable beverage containers go into landfill.

A National Container Deposit Scheme will double the recycling rate, clean up the litter, create jobs and reduce pollution and provide a system for better waste management for other goods, such as e-waste and batteries.

Thankyou.

Cr. Rowena Skinner

Councillor Town of Victoria Park

Secretary and Treasurer, Victoria Park Community Garden

Treasurer, Victoria Park Centre for the Arts