



28 March 2012

SCEW Secretariat  
Standing Council on Environment and Water  
John Gorton Building  
King Edward Terrace  
Parkes ACT 2600

## **PACKAGING IMPACTS CONSULTATION REGULATION IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Standing Council on Environment and Water has sought feedback on the data, information and recommendation within the Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (PICRIS).

The Australian Packaging Covenant Council (APC Council) has overall responsibility for the development and management of policy, strategy and compliance arrangements for the Australian Packaging Covenant (APC) and is accountable to EPHC. The APC Council is supported in its role by the National Packaging Covenant Industry Association (NPCIA) that provides the services that implement the APC arrangements.

The APC is a commitment by Commonwealth, state and territory governments and industry to sustainable design, use and recovery of packaging.

The APC Council's vision is *"a community that manufactures, uses, distributes, and recovers packaging materials in a sustainable way"*.

The APC Council values

- working in partnership with government, industry and community organisations
- gathering and using knowledge as an evidence base for action
- innovation and active promotion of solutions at the systems level, and
- transparency and efficiency in performance.

At its meeting on 8 March 2012, the APC Council decided that it was not appropriate for it to make a submission as many of the representatives on the APC Council would be making their own submissions; however it was appropriate for it to provide information on the factual strengths and achievements of the APC.

Recycling data, its methodology and processes, were considered at the meeting and the APC Council confirmed that its recycling data is sourced and collated from primary sources by independent consultants based on an agreed and robust methodology.

The APC Council also discussed at its meeting the possibility of the APC being replaced by co-regulation under the *Product Stewardship Act 2011* and particularly the work that would be required; however agreed to wait until there was certainty of the regulatory environment for packaging before any work would commence.

The Annual Report 2011 of the APC Council has recently been released and outlines and updates the progress and achievements of the APC. These achievements include a continued increase in consumer packaging recycling, a continued reduction in the number of packaging items in the litter stream and investment in projects to continue to achieve the APC goals. A copy of the 2011 Annual Report can be found on the APC website: <http://www.packagingcovenant.org.au>.

We remain available to clarify and discuss any matters.

Yours sincerely,



Stan Moore  
Chief Executive Officer

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