**Subject:** Container deposit scheme

Dear Sir/Madam,

I find it appalling that in 2012 we are still only considering the installation of a container deposit scheme, what’s more I am disgusted that the needs of companies such as Coca Cola bare more weight than that of the people and the planet.

It’s time we took this issue seriously and I would like to share some thoughts and concerns:

* New data shows the national 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.
* South Australians currently recycle more than 80 per cent of their recyclable containers seeing the virtual disappearance of container litter, thanks to a container deposit scheme that has been operating successfully for over 30 years,
* The failure to do a financial analysis that reveals the financial impacts on industry and consumers, when previous research has shown CDS will cost half a cent a container a pittance when compared to the continually increasing land fill costs.
* The failure of the RIS to include the financial benefits of more jobs and extra non-container materials going to CDS drop-off centres.
* A major problem also found by ABARE in its peer review of the RIS was that the RIS treats theoretical industry options such as more bins and advertising as having the same validity as proven schemes such as a CDS. .
* 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.
* It costs more for the environment minister studies than implementing the best container recycling system in the world which will only cost half a cent a container , it’s time to  implement it and stop talking about it.
* Every day the Commonwealth delays a national container deposits system another 9 million recyclable beverage containers go into landfill. That doesn’t even take into account the destruction to our marine life for the plastics and by-products  that make their way into our oceans.
* 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.

Senator Scott Ludlum  has been working in the Senate for over three years to introduce a national container deposit scheme – during that time **more than 20 billion recyclable containers have gone to landfill** unnecessarily. Let’s stop wasting time adding to the waste.

Thank you for considering my submission, it is essential this is enacted upon as a matter of urgency...it is beyond the council level and needs to be implemented nationally.

Kind regards

***Signe***

Signe  Westerberg