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Gosford City Council

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Dear Sir/Madam

Submission on the Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (RIS)

I advise that Council at its meeting of 27 January 2009, considered a Notice of Motion advocating the environmental, economic, and social benefits to ratepayers of adopting a Container Deposit Scheme in NSW.

After considering the Notice of Motion Council resolved to write to the Premier of NSW urging implementation of container deposit legislation.

The NSW State Government has not introduced a Container Deposit Scheme in NSW. Nevertheless, in response to the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) Council continues to support this position in principle as it transfers responsibility to producers rather than placing a reliance on Council's to fund kerbside recycling services.

However, in order to manage waste streams councils are by necessity providing kerbside recycling services under long-term contracts. In the case of Gosford and Wyong Council's, we are currently in the fourth year of a ten-year contract where the contractor has constructed a multimillion-dollar state of the art materials recovery facility to service the two Council areas. Should container deposit legislation be introduced during the contracted period, this potentially would remove from the kerbside collection a considerable quantity of the most valuable products in the recycling stream and undermine the financial viability of both the kerbside collection contract and the materials recovery facility.

Council's therefore understands that the introduction of Container Deposit Legislation is likely to have a direct financial impact on every council operating a kerbside recycling service as the contractors will seek compensation for the lost income from the recycling stream.

Any proposed legislation for Container Deposit Legislation would therefore need to consider a mechanism to financially compensate councils until the expiry of all current contracts.

Should you require any additional information or assistance in regard to this matter I suggest that contact be made with Glen Pestell, Acting Manager Waste and Emergency Services on 4325 8363 who is familiar with this issue.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Glen
Acting General Manager

[Progressing a National Container Deposit Scheme](#)