

Enquiries: Ian Barnes
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Committee Secretary Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and
the Arts PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Australia

Dear Secretary,

The City of Whitehorse in Victoria wishes to make the following submission to the Senate Enquiry for the Environment Protection (Beverage Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme) Bill 2009.

At its Council meeting on 18 May 2009, Whitehorse City Council considered a proposal by Ms Colleen Hartland MLC, Victorian Greens spokesperson for Local Government and Waste Management, to introduce a Bill to Victorian State Parliament for a 10 cents returnable deposit on all drink bottles, cans and cartons in Victoria. A copy of the Council report and accompanying Council resolution is attached as background information into the Council's consideration of this proposal.

Whitehorse Council supports in principle a drink container deposit scheme that would not financially disadvantage Council. We urge the Australian Government to quickly and thoroughly complete a cost-benefit analysis of the impact of any proposed container deposit scheme on local government before finalising its proposed legislation.

Local Government plays an important role in the recovery and recycling of containers and we expect any changes to current arrangements to build upon the successful municipal recycling collections and to be implemented in a way that is financially beneficial for the community and local government.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Barnes

Ian Barnes
EcoVision Coordinator
Whitehorse City Council