



**Committee Secretariat  
Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Inquiry into Container Deposit Schemes**

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I am writing on behalf of the Australian Dairy Products Federation (ADPF) with regard to the Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Inquiry into Container Deposit Schemes (CDS).

The ADPF is the peak industry body representing processors, manufacturers and traders of dairy products in Australia. Its Members account for some 95% of the milk processed in Australia and includes those companies that supply dairy products to the domestic market and are thus potentially directly impacted by the findings of this Inquiry.

The ADPF welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Senate Committee and wishes to commence by observing the dairy industry has a well established track record in actively participating in and facilitating food and beverage container recycling programmes with the specific aims of demonstrating responsible food packaging stewardship and practices. The industry considers its active participation in packaging recycling critical to being responsive and accountable to changing consumer needs and expectations with regard to minimising our environmental footprint whilst not compromising health and safety standards of dairy foods.

The ADPF supports the current co-regulatory arrangements for the management of the environmental impacts of packaging, the Australian Packaging Covenant (APC), as a comprehensive national approach that encompasses all packaging, not just beverage containers. However, the Federation is concerned about:

- The potential of a national CDS to undermine the viability of current municipal kerb-side collection services and APC
- The significant increase in cost to consumers and beverage companies of a national CDS, as being promoted, for example, by the Boomerang Alliance
- The regulatory and administrative burden on beverage companies in delivering a national CDS
- Unsubstantiated claims of beverage companies "rorting" the existing state based container deposit schemes

The dairy industry is keen to take an evidence-based approach to the promotion and execution of schemes designed to deliver improved and cost-effective packaging recycling. The ADPF would be happy to discuss the issues of concern to the dairy industry and remind the Committee of the opportunities to enhance the effectiveness of a national co-regulatory stewardship approach to improving recycling and reducing litter

Yours Faithfully

Rob Poole  
President