



Mr Alby Taylor  
Australian Beverages Council

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Dear Mr Taylor

**CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME – TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR REFUND MARK LABELS**

The McGowan Government has committed to implementing a container deposit scheme (CDS) in Western Australia which is planned to commence in early 2020.

Further to the letter sent on 19 November 2018, regarding the refund mark and labelling requirements, I advise that a 24 month transitional period will apply before refund mark requirements are enforced.

The Government has consulted with the CDS Advisory Group and the Beverage and Retail Technical Working Group members in reaching this decision. The 24 month period will apply from the start of the scheme.

The transition period will reduce the waste of already printed or ordered labels, pre-labelled containers and beverages with long shelf lives.

Please note that the transition arrangement does not apply to barcodes. Eligible containers must display a barcode from the start of the scheme.

***Requirement for refund mark on container labels***

After the transition period, all beverage containers covered by the scheme will require a refund mark to identify that they are eligible for a refund. Containers which do not display both a barcode and the refund mark will not be able to be sold legally in Western Australia after the transition period ends.

States and territories with container deposit schemes (New South Wales, Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and the Northern Territory) have agreed to use the same refund mark. This means all beverage containers included in the scheme will require a refund mark stating:

*10c refund at collection depots/points in participating State/Territory of purchase*

The refund mark must be a colour and size that ensure the marking is clear and legible. It is recommended that the number '10' be a minimum of 3 mm in height and have a minimum 3 mm 'free space' boundary around the refund marking.

The scope of beverage containers covered by the scheme is available on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's website at [www.dwer.wa.gov.au/cds](http://www.dwer.wa.gov.au/cds). It is the same as those covered by the New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory and Queensland schemes.

If you have any questions, please contact the Container Deposit Scheme Team on telephone (08) 6364 7222 or via email at [cds@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:cds@dwer.wa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Cowie', with a large, stylized initial 'S'.

Stuart Cowie  
**ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL**

24 April 2019