

Author name: J. Haddon

Date of submission: Sunday, 4 March 2018

Submission: The public needs some key answers. 1) What portion of containers returned for the deposit were diverted from the yellow bin recycling program, and therefore do not contribute to the mandate of reducing litter? 2) Given the low rate of return, and therefore costs being vastly under expectations (because so little is refunded), in future will we see, e.g., a \$0.05 deposit and \$0.10 reward, so that "Return and Earn" might become an honest name for the program? Or 3) Can government and operators simply pad the "costs" to soak up the surplus? 4) Is it true that beverage makers will be refunded the excess, after having already charged consumers for the full average \$0.15 per container, thereby increasing their profit as a result of the scheme? 5) Will government provide a mechanism for consumers to get this money back? (e.g. a "Return and Earn" tax credit, rather than just a well-deserved apology). Thank you and good luck with the review.