

Author name: J. Rindfleish

Date of submission: Friday, 19 October 2018

Submission: There is a lot of information re suppliers and operators but not much for the people paying for the scheme in particular country consumers. If people realised how much they are paying for no return they would be outraged. In my town Merriwa we cannot get any positive response to requests for a return and earn depot. The biggest problem seems to be the outlandish operating hours required by the EPA. Your report shows that there is a requirement of 24 hours per week with at least 8 hours weekends. This requirement is unworkable in small regional towns as most businesses have limited staff and would not be economical to employ additional staff. Most people in the country can organise to return on set days and times. A change in this requirement would make the scheme more viable in regional areas. Our nearest R & E is 64 km away. So the vast majority go the land fill. I have made several suggestions to overcome the problem including make use of the work for the dole through Centrelink. There seems to be no will by the Government to look after consumers but have placed great emphasis on looking after big business.