



**Mark Speakman**  
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **HAVE YOUR SAY ON NSW'S CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME**

Environment Minister Mark Speakman today invited the public to comment on the NSW Government's container deposit scheme discussion paper – the next step in delivering on the government's election commitment to introduce a cost-effective container deposit scheme.

The discussion paper is designed to encourage comment and feedback on how a container deposit scheme should operate in NSW and some of the scheme's key design principles.

"The Premier has made it his priority to reduce the volume of litter by 40 per cent by 2020," Mr Speakman said.

"Every year about 160 million beverage containers are littered across NSW communities. This equates to 44 per cent of total litter volume – by far the largest proportion of the state's litter volume.

"An efficient and cost-effective container deposit scheme will help NSW reduce litter."

The discussion paper seeks feedback and canvasses two models in particular.

Mr Speakman said the container deposit scheme advisory committee, which contributed invaluable input into the development of the discussion paper, was established to provide expertise in environmental matters, industry operations, recycling, innovation, behavioural psychology, local government and litter management.

"More than 100 stakeholders provided support and input to the committee," Mr Speakman said.

"Now we're going out to the community. We want its views on a NSW scheme."

Mr Speakman said he encouraged everyone to have their say to help shape how a container deposit scheme should operate in NSW.

Public consultation is open until 26 February 2016. The government has committed to implementing a container deposit scheme by 1 July 2017. To read the discussion paper visit: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/container-deposit-scheme.htm>.