Inquiry - Improving Queensland's Container Refund Scheme

Submission No:	8
Submitted by:	Ocean Crusaders Foundation LTD
Publication:	Making the submission and your name public
Attachments:	No attachment

Submitter Comments:

In my opinion, the current Containers for Change program is not meeting the needs of the community. As Australia's Premier Waterway Cleaning Team, we are continually removing elligible containers from the waterways and the number of containers we remove has not reduced. In Sweden the ability to have vending achines in the shops that sell the containers, allows you to return small quantities and get a voucher to reduce your next purchase. This means that you don't have to save up lots of containers before going to a depot. It also means you dont have to go out of your way. We have found a lot of bottle caps in the waterways, particularly around the depots as people have to take the caps off. This has actually lead to an increase in the number of caps being collected in waterways. Hence the scheme should be funding clean ups of the environment, particularly the waterways. I also believe it is a conflict of interest to have members of the beverage companies affiliated with the CFC program. It needs to be 100% independent from the beverage companies to avoid any conflict of interest. The board needs to be appointed by government, and not by the members of the beverage industry.