

**From:** [Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management](#)  
**To:** [recyclinginquiry](#)  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management  
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Ms Pamela Lloyd  
[REDACTED]

## **SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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Thank you for giving me this opportunity to make a submission, which in the interests of keeping litter to a minimum I will make as short as possible.

As one who walks everywhere, I can vouch for the abundance of litter on our streets, in our gutters, and in our creeks. I am always picking up rubbish which is not biodegradable, and it's particularly stressful to envisage the cruel deaths of fish and birds as this litter gets to our waterways, & out to the ocean.

Container Deposit Schemes. I want a refundable deposit scheme for plastic bottles and aluminium cans, like the deposit scheme, which we had in my youth for glass bottles. The scheme in South Australia, where the streets are much tidier, clearly operates successfully without any fuss. Not only would this reduce litter, but one would expect it to raise awareness of rubbish in general. There is also a moral force in re-using things, not just throwing them away.

Recycling. This needs to be more uniform across the municipalities. One particularly bothersome thing: items which are made of different materials, such as an olive oil can which has plastic fittings – this has to be dis-assembled to go into the recycling bin. There are quite a few items like this.

General rubbish. Deposit schemes and recycling refinements are easy compared with the challenge of such items as cigarette butts, tiny plastic fishes for soy sauce, plastic lolly bags & lollypop sticks, polystyrene packaging (including take-away containers), soft plastic including shopping bags, takeaway cups ... etc. , all of which litter our streets.

Some suggestions:

- Forming a scientific team to administer research grants to industrial chemists to design alternative packaging. This would make other mediums available to manufacturers;
- Running advertising campaigns to the general public to promote advances and initiatives;
- Maybe annual government recognition / prizes / star ratings to retailers and manufacturers who are being innovative in creating less waste;
- Legislating that all chargers for mobile phones, as an example, be standardized to be interchangeable. Same with headphones, remote controls, etc.;

- Mixed medium packaging to be taxed;
  - Ban cigarette filters. Too bad if people get poisoned, better than innocent fish;
  - Remove payroll tax from shops, where, as a result of self-serve, items are overpackaged.
- Reduce packaging, increase assistants.

Public awareness is increasing, thanks to War on Waste. But we need to go beyond recycling, and to eliminate most of our packaging altogether. We did actually live quite comfortably without it just a few decades ago.

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File1:

File2:

File3: