Cashing in on Containers with Reverse Vending Machines

The Territory Government’s cash for containers scheme is set to go “high tech” with the rollout of Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs) across the Territory as approved collection depots.

Environment Minister Karl Hampton said Envirobank - one of two companies so far approved to establish the RVMs in parts of the Territory – has trialled one of its machines at Charles Darwin University since September which has so far collected more than 11,000 containers.

“The Territory Government is the greenest in the Territory’s history and cash for containers will help meet targets within the Territory 2030 strategic plan,” Mr Hampton said.

“This includes reducing the amount of waste being taken to our rubbish dumps by 50% by 2020.

“That’s why we are pushing ahead with our historic cash for containers scheme that will return 10c on each container returned when the scheme commences on 3 January 2012.

“We are already seeing a better uptake here than in South Australia with more collection depots approved here on a per capita basis than interstate where the scheme started in the 1970s.

“Today I am pleased to announce Envirobank has been approved to open a collection depot at Shed 4, 44 Crawford Street in Katherine that will open on 9 January and operate RVMs as depots at Thirsty Camel outlets in Parap and Howard Springs to be installed late January 2012.

“This approval is in addition to the Envirobank mobile RVM normally based at Pinelands that will visit the Territory growth towns to increase access to cash for containers and educate communities on the benefits of recycling.”

Mr Hampton said Revive Recycling Pty Ltd has been approved to set up a RVM as a collection depot at the Nightcliff Shopping Centre.

“Veolia Environmental Services has also been approved to set up collection depots at 13 Beaton Road in Berrimah and at 106 Smith Street in Alice Springs,” Mr Hampton said.

“Cash for containers works in South Australia where beverage prices are no different and Territorians want it to work here.”

Go to www.greeningnt.nt.gov.au to locate collection depots.

Media contact: Edwin Edlund 0401 119 563