CASH FOR CANS BACK IN THE REGIONS

11 October 2013

The Country Liberals Government is managing a balanced environment by resurrecting the cash for cans program across the Territory.

New depots will be in operation by the end of October in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek with a depot in Elliott to follow shortly. There will now be nine depots across the Territory including four in Darwin and one each in Katherine and Milingimbi.

Envirobank will operate the Alice Springs depot on Cameron Street while Darrin’s Rubbish Removal will operate the Tennant Creek depot on Brown Street.

A mobile collection unit, also operated by Envirobank, services many remote communities and townships. Last week it visited Wagit Beach where 36,000 containers were collected.

These depots will operate under the existing legislation and regulations. The Northern Territory Government is currently drafting new legislation to deal with some of the scheme’s issues, once completed the draft legislation will be circulated to stakeholders for consideration.

Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment, Peter Chandler, is committed to improving the legislation to encourage further operators to join the market; however I’m delighted by the progress in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek.

"The Container Deposit Scheme, introduced in January 2012, was actively embraced by Territorians with around 90 million containers recycled in the first 18 months," Mr Chandler said.

"It’s an important step in the resurrection of the scheme to have these three operators open. I’m now hoping the EPA can work with all stakeholders to develop legislation that will encourage even more operators.

"The success of the scheme is a testament to Territorians willingness to build sustainable and balanced environments as every container recycled is one less destined for landfill.

"I would urge all Territorians to take advantage of the depots that are currently operating as we can all play a part in caring for our environment.

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