CASH FOR CONTAINERS
FIX THE PROBLEMS

Gerry Wood, Independent Member for Nelson, says recycling week is an opportune time for the Government to show its true credentials and bring in some overdue changes to the container deposit scheme.

Firstly he says that for far too long NT recycling depots have had to split the number of containers received into 24 groups whereas in SA depots are only required to split into 9 or 10 types of containers. This anomaly has added to the costs of the scheme which have made it difficult for depots to stay viable.

Gerry said the previous Government said it was going to fix the problem but nothing has happened even though the scheme has operating for about 5 years. He says this Government needs to do something quickly and fix the problem and tell the Coordinators to stop putting impediments in the way of the scheme so the depots operate on the same basis as happens in SA.

Secondly Gerry says that the NT Government should be taking the lead and pushing both SA and NSW to expand the types of containers that attract a deposit. He said milk, wine and fruit juice (2l) containers are inexplicably exempt from the deposit scheme and make the whole program look silly especially when flavoured milk, non-alcoholic wine and fruit juice drink (2l) containers all have a 10 cent deposit.

He says these two changes will improve the efficiency of the cash for container system making in more viable as well as increasing recycling rates in the NT and SA and NSW.