The Government has rejected a specific model for introducing container deposit legislation because of predictions it would have resulted in an increase in the cost of living for many Territory families.

The Minister for Environment and Heritage, Dr Chris Burns, said the particular model considered by Cabinet recently would have led to price rises and an increase in the weekly family shopping bill. There were also serious issues over taxation and operational concerns associated with the model proposed.

Some estimates pointed to the model also resulting in a $3-5 increase in the cost of a carton of beer.

"Now is not the time to be increasing the cost of living for Territory households," Dr Burns said.

"That is why this CDL model was rejected. But the Government will look at alternative CDL models as part of a wider litter management strategy now being developed."

Dr Burns said the Litter Abatement and Resource Recovery Strategy was in the final stages of preparation, and was expected to go forward for Cabinet consideration in the next few months.

"What this Government wants to see is an effective litter and recycling strategy for the Territory at the least possible cost to Territory families and I will be exploring all avenues to achieve this," he said.