



Hon. Leeanne Enoch MP
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science , Minister
for the Arts
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

by email: environment@ministerial.gov.qld.au

Dear Minister,

As you are aware Wildlife Queensland is a long established and respected wildlife focused Queensland conservation group. Broadly speaking Wildlife Queensland aims to protect wildlife by lawful means, to influence choices, to engage and educate communities. With 16 branches and over 6500 members and supporters spread across the State, we are a strong voice for our wildlife and its habitat.

Wildlife Queensland is also one of the 48 member groups of the Boomerang Alliance and we have worked together in recent times to improve our environment and benefit our wildlife through the enhanced management of plastic waste. We acknowledge that without the efforts of the Palaszczuk Government the achievements to date would not have been possible but unfortunately the battle is far from being won.

I have been directed by our State Council to write to urge your support for strong and effective policy action of recycling and plastic pollution reductions. At the next Meeting of Environment Ministers our society urges Queensland to support these measures:

- Introduce a national plan to ban the export of collected recyclables and commitment to an associated investment in domestic recycling.
- Agreement to introduce procurement policies for government and business that will create a market for recyclables, particularly plastics.
- With other jurisdictions who have introduced or plan to introduce a CDS, agreement to expand all state schemes to include wine and spirit containers; encourage recycling by requiring that all collected containers to have significant recycled content from 2023; and consider an increase to the deposit on containers to 20 cents by 2023.

- A national Plastic Bag Ban and Container Deposit Scheme in each State.
- A national phase-out of thick plastic bags (<70 microns as has been put in place in New Zealand). This should set a phase-out date (2021) and be mandatory in all jurisdictions.
- A phase-out of single use (non-compostable) takeaway packaging. This to include coffee cups/lids, straws, cups and containers, cutlery, bags and plastic bottles, with a proposed phase-out date of 2021.

Wildlife Queensland thanks you for your consideration of these matters and there is no question that our terrestrial and marine environments and the wildlife they support will benefit if such action is taken.

Yours sincerely



Des Boyland, Policies & Campaigns Manager

3rd October 2019