

Media Release  
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## WA wants container deposits

A Newspan poll has found 94% of the WA population support the WA Government's intention to introduce deposits on containers. The poll carried out in the first half of May is vindication of the WA Government's push on container deposits to tackle litter and increase recycling, the Boomerang Alliance said today.

"It's obvious that people are very worried about litter and waste from beverage containers and will support a successful scheme like the one in South Australia. The government should take heart, the results give it a great mandate for its current inquiry into a best practice scheme for container deposits," said Sue Graham-Taylor .....

"The beverage industry, in particular Coca-Cola, has been trying to convince the public that a container deposit system won't produce results. However, the community has judged their rhetoric and performance on recycling and they have been found wanting. The industry is out of touch," said Jeff Angel, Director of Total Environment Centre, who represents environment groups on the controversial National Packaging Covenant Council.

"Twenty percent of the top ten items removed by volunteers on Clean Up Australia Day are bottles and cans" said Ian Kiernan AO, Chairman of Clean Up Australia.

"The South Australian experience suggests that 85% of recyclable containers are returned through their deposit program. This clearly demonstrates that our current methods of waste disposal are unsustainable and we need to shift people's attitudes towards waste being a resource that has financial value. A Container Deposit System is a positive shift in this direction."

The Newspan survey also found respondents believe 92% of people would be 'very likely' to return their containers for recycling if a 20 cent deposit was placed on a container.

The Newspan was undertaken over two weekends in May (5-7, 12-14) of a representative sample of the West Australian adult population. See attached briefing note and a full copy of the Newspan results can be found at:

[www.boomerangalliance.org/000\\_files/Newspan\\_Container\\_Recycling.pdf](http://www.boomerangalliance.org/000_files/Newspan_Container_Recycling.pdf)

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### The Boomerang Alliance:

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|  Australian Conservation Foundation |  Clean up             |  Conservation Council of Western Australia |  FRIENDS OF THE EARTH |  TOTAL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE             |  Greenland Construction Council |  GREENPEACE |  Tasmanian Conservation Trust |
|  Arid Lands Environment Centre      |  Environment Victoria |  NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW Inc    |  |  Local Government Association of NSW |  Shires Association of NSW     |  |  |