



**Australian Government**

**Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities**

File No:2011/05144

Mr Silvio de Denaro  
Secretary  
Australian Tyre Industry Council  
PO Box 3441  
Dural NSW 2158

Dear Mr de Denaro

I am writing, as agreed, in follow-up to discussions between the Environment Quality Division (EQD) of the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and members of the Australian Tyre Industry Council (ATIC) regarding the establishment of an industry-led product stewardship scheme for tyres. More specifically, I am writing to reaffirm EQD's interest in bringing the stewardship scheme being developed to conclusion and willingness to agree areas of collaborative endeavour with members of the Tyre Implementation Working Group (IWG).

I understand, through the deliberations of the Tyres Steering Group, that members of the Tyre IWG are specifically interested in working with EQD to facilitate action in the following areas:

- standards for replacement tyres in Australia
- harmonising regulations for the collection, storage, recycling and disposal of end of life tyres in support of a domestic tyre recycling industry
- curtailing the export of whole baled tyres, destined for inappropriate use, from Australia, and
- adoption of government procurement policies which support the use of tyre derived products in infrastructure projects

As you are aware EQD is already facilitating activity in these areas as part of its commitment to the Tyre IWG. EQD has, for example, facilitated discussion between the IWG and the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads in relation to a National Transport Commission initiative to develop an energy efficiency labelling scheme for tyres. EQD has also sought to have tyres considered as a pilot project for the Environment Protection and Heritage Council's project on improved harmonisation of environmental regulation. Similarly EQD continues to pursue approaches to the relevant international authorities regarding the appropriateness of the current international trade in whole baled tyres.

As a demonstration of EQD's ongoing commitment to the establishment of a successful industry-led tyre stewardship scheme I am willing to agree to a collaborative endeavour with members of the Tyre IWG on the areas listed above. As a first step it will be necessary to scope the nature of the tasks in more detail, particularly where it is the states and territories rather than the Australian Government which has primary responsibility. This scoping of activity should also include an

examination of relative responsibilities for pursuing specific actions, the resources to be committed, timelines and priorities.

As we have previously discussed, adoption of the tyre stewardship scheme as developed by the Tyre IWG, is critical to support ongoing engagement between EQD and the tyre industry in these areas.

I look forward to working with you further on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Diana Wright', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Diana Wright  
First Assistant Secretary  
Environment Quality Division

27 May 2011