



Our reference: DOC15/266541

Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
Luke Griffin
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Mr Griffin,

Reference: A91504 – APMF & Ors – submission

I am writing to provide a submission on the Australian Paint Manufacturers Federation, Paint Stewardship Limited paint manufacturers and paint suppliers application for authorisation.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority supports the application of a national levy on the supply of architectural and design (A&D) paints and wood care products. This levy will fund a National Paint Product Stewardship Scheme to provide a nationally co-ordinated approach to the collection and disposal of A&D paints in Australia. We support the national waste paint stewardship scheme developed by the national working group and submitted to you for review.

Waste paint was listed as a priority product under the *National Product Stewardship Act 2011* in 2013 and was relisted on the priority Product List 2014-15 released on 25 June 2014. The Commonwealth Government, Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage, Sustainability Victoria and NSW EPA have participated in the working group and have supported the development of the scheme.

The proposed levy and system ensures the scheme is self-funding and flexible to demand. This approach avoids issues that have occurred in other national product stewardship schemes. The program's approach to include waste paint from trade is vital to ensure appropriate management of waste paint from all generators. In NSW the scheme will make use of Community Drop-off Centres where these are available and suitably located. We support the establishment of a non-profit independent organisation, governed by a board, to manage the scheme, to use the levy to fund collection, transportation and treatment of waste paint collected by the scheme.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Henry Moore, Manager Waste Strategy and Innovation on 9995 5734 or henry.moore@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steve Beaman'.

STEVE BEAMAN
Director Waste and Resource Recovery
Environment Protection Authority

7-8-2015