

## Supermarket Soft Plastics Taskforce Meeting 9 Minutes

17 February 2023, 9:00am - 10:30am

### Attendees

**Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water:** Kate Lynch, Cameron Hutchison, Annette Williams

**Coles:** Brooke Donnelly, Llew Fleming, Simone Brookes, Kristen Boverly-Spencer, Cath Macneil, Wade Mosse

**Woolworths:** Alice Yang, Laurie Kozlovic, Nerilee Telford, Eloise Fanuli, Liam Brennan, Simran Kaur, Christopher Lane.

**ALDI:** Daniel Baker.

### Minutes

#### Agenda item 1: Welcome and attendance

- Kate Lynch confirmed her role as Chair for this meeting and commenced with an acknowledgement of country.

#### Outcomes:

- **Attendees agreed that Woolworths would take minutes for this meeting.**

#### Agenda item 2: Assessment of current Taskforce progress and options

- Attendees discussed the significant discovery work undertaken by the Taskforce to date, noting that recent developments regarding the existing REDcycle stockpiles have necessarily diverted some attention in recent weeks.
- Participants noted the continued intention to collaborate through the Taskforce in order to identify and implement a short term solution to recommence in-store soft plastics collections as an amenity for Australian consumers. Woolworths noted that further work was to be done through the Taskforce regarding collaborative/joint collection, logistics and processing arrangements. Coles noted the importance of broader industry and government support for a sustainable long term solution for soft plastics recycling. ALDI noted its alignment with the views expressed by other Participants.
- Woolworths also noted that collaboration for a joint short term solution would also be necessary [REDACTED].

#### Outcomes:

- **Attendees agreed that the Taskforce would continue to meet and collaborate in respect of a short term solution.**

#### Agenda item 3: Public communications

- Participants noted that the communications working group of the Taskforce had met and liaised during the week to further develop the proposed public roadmap, with sections

assigned to the communications teams of each participant for initial drafting during the working group meeting.

- Coles tabled the current draft of the proposed public roadmap document, noting that further work would be undertaken to ensure clarity in the communication (including graphics etc). Woolworths noted that the intent of the document was to re-establish public trust in soft plastics recycling in the short term and it was therefore important to set out realistic timetables, given further and iterative discovery work will need to be undertaken as the Participants map out the specifics of the short term solution.
- Woolworths and Coles noted the importance of obtaining feedback from [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].

**Outcome:**

- Coles agreed to circulate the latest draft of the public roadmap document to the Taskforce.
- Attendees agreed that the Participants would continue to progress the drafting of the public roadmap, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- Attendees agreed [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- Attendees agreed that the Taskforce would aim to release the public roadmap [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Agenda item 4: ACCC progress report

- Coles noted it was taking the lead on the initial draft of the ACCC progress report, which is due to the ACCC under the Interim Authorisation by 27 February 2023.
- Participants discussed that the ACCC progress report would be a separate document to the proposed public communication, although there would be some overlap in content.
- The Department noted that the Participants may wish to include in the ACCC progress report the Participants' proposal to continue collaborating in respect of a short term solution, in order to inform the ACCC's current consideration of the public benefits which may arise from any final determination in favour of authorisation.

**Outcome:**

- Participants agreed that Coles would continue to progress the initial draft of the ACCC progress report and circulate to the Taskforce for input and finalisation by 27 February 2023.

Agenda item 5: Other business and wrap up

*NSW EPA feedback*

- Adam Gilligan from the NSW EPA joined the meeting.
- Adam indicated that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Outcome:**

- **Woolworths and Coles agreed** [REDACTED]

*Further discussions and information*

- Coles noted that it was keen to obtain a further update from REDcycle regarding its current plans, including in light of the recent media reports regarding the winding up application which has been lodged against REDcycle.
- Woolworths noted that there would likely need to be further discussions between the Participants over the next few weeks in order to progress proposed solutions and the public roadmap, arising from this Taskforce meeting and in preparation for the next Taskforce meeting. This would likely require engagement by the Participants with each other, [REDACTED]

**Outcome:**

- **Attendees agreed** that REDcycle and the NSW, VIC and SA EPAs would be invited to present at the next Taskforce meeting.

[Agenda item 6: Meeting close](#)