



7 April 2025

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
Canberra
ACT 2601

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Submission Supporting the Soft Plastic Stewardship Australia urgent interim authorisation

3RG Recycling Pty Ltd is a soft plastic recycling company with a plant at Hemmant, Brisbane. We are committed to advancing sustainable practices and reducing environmental impact through circular solutions. We strongly support the proposed Soft Plastics Stewardship Australia (SPSA) scheme, which aligns with national sustainability goals and the development of a circular economy for soft plastics.

Environmental Benefits

The SPSA scheme addresses the urgent need to improve soft plastic recovery rates. It is estimated that Australia annually consumes 538,000 tonnes of soft plastics, yet only 6% is recovered. Approximately 300,000 tonnes of recyclable soft plastics—valued at over \$500 million by SPSA—end up in landfill or the environment. By supporting the SPSA, we can significantly reduce waste and unlock this lost economic value.

Economic Opportunities

The SPSA scheme proposes a cost-effective approach which will have a positive impact by redirecting substantial economic value from landfill back into domestic supply chains, fostering economic growth and creating jobs. It is estimated that recycling generates up to three times more employment opportunities compared to landfill operations.

Boosting Domestic Recycling Capacity

The scheme will enhance domestic recycling infrastructure by scaling up collection channels such as in-store drop-offs, curb side collections, and dedicated drop-off locations. This will reduce reliance

**3RG Recycling Pty Ltd ACN 667029021
7/67 East Street, Rockhampton, Qld, 4700
www.3RGrecycling.au**



on imported recycled pellets while increasing the availability of recycled content for Australian industries.

Our operations align closely with SPSA's objectives by leveraging advanced proven technologies and fostering industry collaboration to optimize recovery rates and processing efficiency. These initiatives underscore our dedication to supporting the transformative approach that the SPSA is taking to drive environmental and economic progress.

Independence and Transparency

We recognize the importance of ensuring independence and transparency within the SPSA framework. The organization's governance structure as proposed adheres to global best practices, featuring independent directors and a Stakeholder Advisory Council representing recyclers, government entities, NGOs, and academia. We support SPSA's commitment to transparent reporting on material collection and levy investments, fostering trust among stakeholders.

3RG Recycling's Support

We urge the ACCC to grant favourable authorisation for SPSA's proposed scheme for the term of 8 years, as this will help give stakeholders certainty in the continued operation of the SPSA over the medium and long term. This initiative represents a pivotal opportunity to enhance Australia's recycling capacity, reduce environmental harm caused by soft plastics, and unlock significant economic benefits for local communities.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping letters that appear to be "TR".

Tim Regan
CEO
3RG Recycling Pty Ltd