

7 April 2025

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission  
c/o Gabby Worth  
Project Coordinator  
Soft Plastic Stewardship Australia Limited

To whom it may concern,

**Re: Soft Plastic Stewardship Australia Limited (SPSA) application for authorisation  
AA1000695**

I write to advise that Alpine Shire Council (Council) has been part of the National Plastics Recycling Scheme (NPRS) soft plastic kerbside collection pilot this financial year. The pilot has received a high-level interest and participation from residents. Around 20% of residential properties in Alpine Shire with a kerbside recycling service have signed up to the opt-in soft plastics collection pilot.

Following the introduction of the food organics and garden organics collection service in July 2023, many residents expressed dismay at the change of general waste bin collection from weekly to fortnightly, particularly as the standard waste bin size is only 80L and this led to numerous requests to upgrade to larger waste bins being processed following these collection changes. The soft plastics kerbside collection pilot has reduced the volume that households need to put in their waste bin and subsequently has taken pressure off residents endeavouring to maximise waste diversion, and save money, by keeping the small general waste bin.

The engagement through social media for the soft plastic kerbside collection pilot has also been overwhelmingly positive.

Interim authorisation from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) will enable Council to continue the existing pilot and, subject to ACCC authorisation, potentially implement an ongoing Victoria-wide soft plastics collection service to reduce preventable landfill in the long-term.

If you would like any further information regarding the pilot and the response of residents, please do not hesitate to contact Bronwyn Westbrook, Sustainability Coordinator, by email [bronwynw@alpineshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:bronwynw@alpineshire.vic.gov.au) or by calling 03 5755 0555.

Yours sincerely,



Michael MacDonagh  
**Manager Growth and Future**