

Submission by Supriya Perera-25 August 2025

Here's my feedback to ACCC about Soft Plastics Stewardship Australia (SPSA): 1. Please no supermarket or private company payouts – \$16 million should go to recycling & recovery, not supermarket subsidies. 2. My taxes are public funds and should create public benefit – The levy comes from what we all pay. It must deliver environmental outcomes and common good, not private gain and shareholder value. 3. This is unfair – We in our communities are already paying. Supermarkets shouldn't get special treatment for fixing a problem they amplify. Are they moving away from plastic packaging in the first place? No they are not. 4. True innovation needed – Without it, this scheme just repeats old failures. Would REDCycle points of failures be addressed with this money? APR Plastics exists and they and other solutions should instead be rolled out at the national level to get us to stop using plastics where possible, and recycle appropriately where not possible. 5. Please stop the greenwash – Is there a truly independent body that will look at holding these organisations accountable financially and legally? Without these financial and legal changes, this is another Public Relations greenwashing exercise, where these companies just get access to this money, and deliver no progress when we only have until 2028 (source: Planetary Boundaries) to fix our bad plastic habits (amongst everything else). 6. Please fix governance – Is this carrot paired with a stick? SPSA's board is dominated by the same companies creating the problem. Independent voices must have real power, did you want to instead give this money to community organisations? Are there any financial implications if this fails, e.g. they need to give the government the money back with interest?