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2 BILLION DRINK CONTAINERS RETURNED – EASY!

The success of the NSW Return and Earn scheme as it passes the 2 billion container mark today after just 19 months, is testimony to the community campaign that fought for it and a well-structured program solely directed towards effective collection and recycling, the Boomerang Alliance said today.

“As well as the strong community support for bringing drink bottle and can refunds in and subsequent participation, it’s important the structure of the scheme has the right drivers. That means a strong focus on accessible collection points and maximising recycling,” said Jeff Angel Director of the Alliance of 49 groups.

“It certainly shows the nay-sayers who opposed the scheme were wrong. None of their predicted problems have come to fruition. This is a lesson for Victoria, which is the last part of Australia to have a bottle and can refund program. We again seek their participation which will help with their serious litter pollution and declining recycling.”

“After a stumble at the start with too short a timeframe for installation of collection infrastructure, NSW has got it right with a world class scheme that will continue to deliver environmental, social and economic gains for years to come,” Mr Angel said.