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BOAGS GETS IT WRONG ON CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

Claims by James Boags Brewery that the scheme selected for Tasmania's container deposit scheme (CDS) on drink containers will lead to higher than necessary prices claimed in the Advocate (16/9/21) are completely wrong, a key environment group said today.

"They compare current 30 pack of XXXX beer prices in Tasmania and Victoria to the \$3 price increase in NSW, which has the type of scheme chosen by the Tasmanian government. We have news for Boags, the extra \$3 is because each drink container has a ten cent refund on it – the same as will occur in Tasmania - and if you return your container for recycling, you get the 10c back," said Jeff Angel, Director of the Alliance.

"What's more the NSW scheme is so efficient and low cost that the sorting and transport costs for a CDS have not been passed onto the beer price. Further proof of how wrong Boags is, is found in the reports by the independent price regulator reviews in NSW and Qld. Qld has the type of scheme being promoted by Boags and TasRecycle, the lobby group for Coke and Lion (who own Boags) and its beer price increase is more than twice that in NSW."

"The running of CDS collection points whether by charities or commercial businesses, under any type of scheme, needs to cover costs and make a profit to justify investment in the infrastructure – the "non-profit" scheme claimed by Boags and TasRecycle is a PR invention."

"James Boags are either profoundly ignorant of how a container refund scheme operates or are indulging in misinformation as part of the ongoing deceptive campaign by TasRecycle," Mr Angel said.

"They should stop trying to hoodwink the public."