



MEDIA RELEASE

NSW LABOR'S RECYCLING PROMISES ARE RIGHT & CAN MAKE 4,700 NEW JOBS

The recycling policy today released by the NSW Labor Opposition hits the right recycling notes and could contribute to up to 4700 new jobs in NSW, according to the Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR), the peak body for the sector.

ACOR welcomes the policy's aspects such as:

- focus on on-job generation and industry development;
- greater and better investment of the waste disposal levy into recycling infrastructure and recycled content product manufacturing;
- emphasis on building domestic resilience and the circular economy in response to the China Sword issue;
- creation of a multi-stakeholder advisory group;
- conduct of an infrastructure strategy;
- product stewardship commitments; and
- improvement of regulatory operations and the EPA.

"The promises made by NSW Labor are the common sense and consensus solutions that industry and stakeholders have long been calling for in NSW. Labor Leader Michael Daley and Shadow Environment Minister Penny Sharpe deserve full credit for doing their homework, listening to stakeholders, and developing smart and funded policy," Pete Shmigel, CEO ACOR, said.

"This policy will definitely decrease waste-to-landfill and increase resource recovery toward existing targets. Very importantly, through the policy's emphasis on industry development and domestic capability for recycled content manufacturing, these measures also mean real jobs in places like western Sydney which is already Australia's leading recycling hub, as demonstrated by analysis released by ACOR today.

"Independent analysis shows that pro-active policy on resource recovery can grow the size of the industry in NSW by more than 20% to some 20,000 jobs. That is a win for the economy and the environment, especially in a volatile global context.

"Our industry would strongly support the implementation of this policy, including finalising arrangements for regulatory certainty and structural adjustment for the AWT sector.

"ACOR and other stakeholders look forward to the NSW Coalition Government providing its own commitments if it were to be re-elected, including building on its circular economy plan, which is a positive, and its welcome commitment to do a 20 Year Waste Strategy," Shmigel said.

An independent analysis commissioned by ACOR has found that the achievement of current targets and managing resource recovery from infrastructure and residential development could lead to the creation of up to 4,700 jobs in western Sydney.

For more information: Pete Shmigel 0419 541 531

Contact Pete for emailed copy of independent analysis

