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SCOMO KICKS BIG ENVIRO & ECONOMY GOAL: RECYCLERS ROAR

The Federal Coalition's recycling policy announcement wins a recycling Grand Final, according to the Australian Council of Recycling, the peak body for the domestic industry worth \$15 billion and 50,000 jobs.

"With the kerbside recycling part of our sector under pressure from Asian changes, this Coalition package is an appropriate, awesome and advantageous investment in Australian recycling's domestic sustainability now and into the future," Pete Shmigel, ACOR CEO, said.

"The Coalition has kicked one strongly through the policy posts. That will result in less waste to landfill, recycling industry co-investment, community confidence in their efforts, value-adding jobs in regional centres, and resource security in a competitive world.

"Scomo has scored big time for recycling, the environment and the economy all in one play," Shmigel said.

ACOR especially welcomes the following initiatives:

- \$100 million Australian Recycling Investment Fund will result in the domestic manufacturing of lower emissions and energy-efficient recycled content products and critical domestic markets for the future.
- \$20 million for a new Product Stewardship Investment Fund for industry-led recycling schemes, including for batteries, electrical and electronic products, photovoltaic systems and plastic oil containers – which can bring Australia in line with the world.
- \$20 million for plastic recycling and waste solutions through the Cooperative Research Centres Projects grants program as only 11% of this material is currently recycled.
- \$2 million for ACOR's world-first "look and tell" recyclability app using AI to support Australians' terrific participation in recycling.

Shmigel said that it was also significant that the Coalition has pledged to continue working with state, territory and local governments on opportunities to get more recycled content into road construction, but that it's an area of much greater opportunity.

"In the future, we need more specific targets and timetables from government on using its purchasing power for recycled content products, such as roads, which is exactly how the UK and France have responded to Asia. Building Snowy 2.0 using recycled content construction material would soak up every glass and plastic stockpile in the country," Shmigel said.

ACOR also strongly acknowledges the recycling policy of the Federal ALP as strong and substantial with commitments in the areas of industry infrastructure, product stewardship and procurement.

"Australian voters, some 90% of whom voluntarily participate in recycling, can be confident that both our major Parties and the Greens have provided substantive policies for this election. All three choices are positive and ACOR will compile a comparative scorecard based on its 10 Point Plan in the next week," Shmigel said.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: PETE SHMIGEL 0419 541 531