



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **RECYCLING BODY ON MORRISON RECYCLING LAW**

The Morrison Government's introduction of landmark legislation for Australian recycling's improvement is epic news, according to the Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR), the national peak body for the resource recovery industry which employs some 50,000 people, particularly in regional Australia.

ACOR especially applauds the following aspects:

- The legal implementation of the COAG ban on the export of unprocessed waste provides certainty and stability for the development of domestic technology and infrastructure, and investment in recycling and recycled content product (RCP) manufacturing. This, in turn, gives consumers and customers more confidence in the efficacy of the recycling process and the sustainability results that it provides.
- The 'beefing up' of product stewardship processes with timeframes, actions and transparency send a clear message to product manufacturers, importers and brand owners that they must seriously take the full life-cycle impact of their decisions. That includes designing and transporting their goods with recyclability and other environmental aspects in mind and contributing to the reduction of the costs of recovery and remanufacturing.

Pete Shmigel, ACOR CEO, said:

*"Taken together with other reforms, this unprecedented legislation marks a new era of environmental, social and economic achievement in recycling through Government leadership and industry partnership and innovation. The Government deserves full credit for its proactive, positive and purposeful agenda, and industry looks forward to its full implementation."*

*"Our industry is making unprecedented investments in collecting, sorting, cleaning, and manufacturing from recyclate from homes, businesses and construction sites. Having the law, policy and governments backing that in is awesome and will unlock huge intergenerational value – whether it's keeping stuff out of wasteful landfills or creating jobs in country towns."*

*"It's especially good that the Government is holding to account those who put products into the marketplace by ensuring their footprint is reduced including through recyclability and recycled content manufacture. That's a key shift we need to make the system even more"*

*successful, and we would welcome further measures in this area consistent with achieving the National Waste Policy's objectives.*

*"Indeed, we acknowledge the Government's strong focus on achieving the targets of the National Waste Policy, including for plastics recycling. And, we are optimistic that Government – with industry partnership – will continue to rise to the challenge and opportunity, including through large-scale infrastructure investment, massively increasing demand for RCPs including through public procurement of recyclate for 'lighthouse projects', and standardisation of operational and logistical aspects, and further incentives.*

*"Specific acknowledgement and positive vibes go to the PM, the Minister for Environment, and the Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction for their personal leadership, initiative, and commitment to this highwater mark in recycling policy and future results. They totally 'get' recycling and it's opportunities for Australia and that's really cool and productive."*

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