

NATIONAL PACKAGING COVENANT

GOVERNMENT OF VICTORIA
Annual report

July 2005 To November 2006



Executive Summary

This document reports against the Government of Victoria Action Plan (July 2005 to November 2006) for the National Packaging Covenant. It is the first report since Ministers endorsed a strengthened Covenant in July 2005.

The Victorian Government continues to be a strong supporter of the Covenant model as a means to reduce the environmental impacts of packaging materials. EPA Victoria and Sustainability Victoria are the lead agencies that contribute to Covenant processes and objectives.

The Victorian Government delivers a broad range of programs to promote environmental efficiency in business, the community and in Government Departments. These programs are driven by policy commitments such as *The Sustainable State, Our Environment Our Future*, and *Sustainability in Action: Towards Zero Waste*, and deliver direct benefits to companies in the packaging supply chain thereby helping them to meet their respective Covenant objectives. The Victorian Government also provides leadership through the Whole of Victorian Government Environmental Management System.

This report details how the Victorian Government, through its range of policies and programs, meets its commitments as a signatory as well as its implementation responsibilities under the National Environment Protection Measure (Used Packaging Materials).

GOAL 1 – PACKAGING OPTIMISED TO INTEGRATE CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT RESOURCE EFFICIENCY, MAXIMUM RESOURCE RE-UTILISATION, PRODUCT PROTECTION, SAFETY AND HYGIENE.	
KPI 1	Total weight of consumer packaging (domestic & imported) sold per annum into the Australian market and the total weight of products packaged.
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Not applicable to jurisdictions.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	- Not applicable -
KPI 2	Resources used to produce packaging, by material type: - energy (mega joules). - water (kilolitres).
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to undertaking the following actions to contribute to this KPI:</p> <p><u>Energy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continued promotion of Best Practice Energy Efficiency Information for individual equipment items, for further information, refer to: http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au b) Continued implementation and enforcement of <i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Efficiency in Industry (Protocol for Environmental Management - PEM)</i>. The PEM provides guidance to businesses regarding implementation of <i>State environment protection policy (Air Quality Management)</i> requirements for the management of greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption. The protocol applies to all EPA licence holders, including major packaging manufacturers. Refer to EPA's website for further information: www.epa.vic.gov.au. <p><u>Water:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Continued implementation and promotion by the Victorian Government's retail water authorities (City West Water, South East Water and Yarra Valley Water) of "Pathways to Sustainability", a voluntary program that encourages Melbourne's top 200 water users to prepare water management plans that identify ways they can conserve water. These users include major raw material suppliers and packaging manufacturers. b) Continued establishment and development of Trade Waste / Cleaner Production Partnerships between EPA Victoria, water authorities and major raw material suppliers and packaging manufacturers. The primary objectives of these partnerships are to reduce water consumption and reduce waste. c) Continued promotion of the savewater!® Alliance Inc (http://www.savewater.com.au), an incorporated not for profit association, with the overall aim of accelerating water conservation behaviour change and water saving product purchasing.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan	<p><u>Energy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Victoria continues to promote Best Practise Energy Efficiency information and case studies for industry, through the Sustainable

<p>Commitments</p>	<p>Manufacturing section of the Sustainability Victoria website. The site is promoted through conferences and seminars. An online forum has been established to encourage discussion and feedback. It also contains the Sustainable Manufacturing Directory listing providers of energy efficiency products and services.</p> <p>b) Participation in the EPA Industry Greenhouse Program (the Program) is a requirement for all EPA licensees under the Protocol for Environmental Management (Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Efficiency in Industry). The Program requires EPA's approximately 1000 licensees to assess energy use and greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). Large EPA licensees were required to undertake a level 2 energy audit that identified energy reduction actions. Actions with a three-year payback period or better must be implemented under the program. Committed GHG reductions from the program currently amounts to 1.1 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually. This equates to a cost saving for business of over \$34 million per annum when fully implemented.</p> <p><u>Water</u></p> <p>a) Melbourne's Top 200 water consumers used a total of 39 billion litres per annum in 2005-06 and since 2001, they have saved 6.19 billion litres per annum, or 13% in a growing economy. Industry and commercial customers have less discretion to reduce water consumption than households as water is used to make products including beverages, food, plastics, cars and other consumer goods. However, all non-residential customers are expected to comply with permanent water saving restrictions and stage one restrictions on garden and non-discretionary use. Of the 200 highest water consumers, 166 have prepared a plan to date. Retailers will help the remaining customers produce water management plans. This work will be completed by June 2007. The program has been extended to encompass approximately 1500 customers who use more than 10 million litres per year.</p> <p>b) Under the Trade Waste partnerships program, EPA and water businesses are helping industrial clients to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of trade waste sent to treatment plants, and where appropriate, reductions in solid waste and energy consumption are considered. EPA has developed partnerships with 9 water businesses and has worked with over 20 companies including raw material suppliers and packaging manufacturers.</p> <p>c) The Victorian Government assisted the goals of the savewater! Alliance through the provision of advice and funds on a shared cost basis with industry for key water conservation community programs, particularly, the Victorian savewater! Awards (\$50,000), a major display at the International Flower and Garden Show (\$60,000 through <i>Our Water Our Future</i>) and a savewater.com.au statewide water storage reporting system (\$10,000).</p>
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KPI 3 Improvements in design, manufacture, marketing and distribution to minimize the environmental impacts of packaging.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	In addition to supporting the work of the National Packaging Covenant's National Projects Group (NPG), the Victorian Government is committed to: a) Continuing to provide financial support and guidance to the Sustainable Packaging Alliance (SPA) (http://www.sustainablepack.org) for their work in the development of the Packaging Impact Quick Evaluation Tool (PIQET). PIQET is a life cycle assessment tool that aims to minimise the consumption of energy and water consumption throughout the life cycle of packaging.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainability Victoria and EPA have continued to contribute to the work of the National Projects Group. Sustainability Victoria represents the Victorian jurisdiction on the National Projects Group. a) Sustainability Victoria has continued to provide support to the Sustainable Packaging Alliance (SPA) in developing the Packaging Impact Quick Evaluation Tool (PIQET). During the 2005-06 year, funding of \$25,000 was provided to support SPA, while \$50,000 of funding was provided for the development of the PIQET. Total funding since 2002 has been \$250,000. Sustainability Victoria has also provided in-kind support through the provision of advisory services.
KPI 4 Changes to protection, safety, hygiene, shelf life or supply chain considerations affecting amount & type of packaging used.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Not applicable to jurisdictions.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	- Not applicable -
KPI 5 Average % per annum, of post-consumer recycled content in packaging manufactured.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to undertaking the following actions to contribute to increases in the amount of post-consumer recycled content in packaging manufactured: a) Ensuring that procurement specifications and procurement practices for appropriate government goods and services consider the purchase of consumer packaging made from post-consumer recycled content. b) Research and dissemination of information on domestic and international trends in markets and technology (including waste to energy) via Sustainability Victoria website. c) Implementing <i>Sustainability In Action: Towards Zero Waste Strategy</i> for Victoria. d) Providing funding to support the establishment of new and the enhancement of existing resource recovery facilities in Victoria. Refer to further actions listed under KPI 10.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) Half of government departments have procurement specifications and practices that consider the purchase of consumer packaging made from post-consumer recycled content. b) Sustainability Victoria's website is updated regularly on overseas trends, issues and news stories regarding recycling, waste

	<p>management, energy and water. During the 2005-06, a budget of \$10,000 was allocated for increased reporting on markets and international trends.</p> <p>c) The Hon John Thwaites MP, Minister for Environment, launched <i>Sustainability in Action: Towards Zero Waste Strategy for Victoria</i> on 1st September 2005. A stakeholder launch was also held on 28th September 2005 which outlined the objectives of the strategy.</p> <p>d) Sustainability Victoria has continued to provide funding support for the establishment of new, and enhancement of existing resource recovery facilities across the state. During the 2005-06 year, funding of over \$1.5 million was provided to local governments to better increase the rate of diversion of recyclables to ensure they remain out of landfill. A further 15 new projects were approved during the 2005-06 year to either establish new facilities or upgrade existing sites.</p>
KPI 6 Total weight, by type, of "non-recyclable" packaging sold per annum into the Australian market.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to undertaking the following actions to contribute to reductions in the total amount of "non-recyclable" consumer packaging sold into the Australian market:</p> <p>a) Ensuring that procurement specifications and procurement practices for appropriate government goods and services are designed to encourage the purchase of "recyclable" consumer packaging.</p>
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>a) Most government departments have procurement specifications and practices that encourage the purchase of recyclable consumer packaging as part of the Whole of Victorian Government Environmental Management System.</p>
KPI 7 Total weight of consumer packaging disposed to landfill.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to assist the NPCC in reporting against this KPI by:</p> <p>a) Providing assistance to Covenant Council in the development of methodologies for reporting against this KPI.</p> <p>b) Providing assistance to Covenant Council in obtaining Victorian data for this KPI.</p> <p>c) Providing support and assistance to Government Departments who are required to demonstrate compliance with the waste component of the Government EMS.</p>
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>a) EPA has supported the NPCC to report against this KPI primarily through a national data collection project led by NSW that identifies tonnages of recyclables into material recovery facilities and onto end markets, as well as leakage to landfill.</p> <p>b) EPA has secured the support of Material Recovery Facility (MRF) operators and materials re-processors in Victoria in order to obtain data related to this KPI.</p> <p>c) The Whole of Victorian Government Environmental Management System (WoVG EMS) provides the framework for government departments to continually improve their waste management practices. Government departments are required to report annually on their performance.</p>

KPI 8	Consumer packaging as a % by weight of total waste and relative to other waste stream components.
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against this KPI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Working with other jurisdictions to develop an agreed national methodology for reporting against this KPI. b) Co-ordinating implementation of Victorian component of survey in accordance with agreed national methodology. c) Reporting baseline results of Victorian component of survey to NPCC in 2005-06 Annual Report.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The EPA has worked with other jurisdictions to develop an agreed methodology to report against this KPI. The most cost effective approaches are being considered by jurisdictions. b) Victorian component of survey continues to be co-ordinated by Sustainability Victoria on an annual basis. The survey undertaken in 2005-06 demonstrated that in 2004-05 the amount of recyclable packaging materials collected at kerbside increased considerably on previous years, and diversion rates increased from 33.5%(2003-04) to 37.9% (2004-05). c) The 2004-05 survey (annual kerbside recycling survey) was completed in November 2005. The 2005-06 survey has been distributed and will be completed by November 2006.

GOAL 2 – EFFICIENT RESOURCE RECOVERY SYSTEMS FOR CONSUMER PACKAGING AND PAPER	
KPI 9	Total weight of consumer packaging recycled, through: (a) Domestic and (b) Away from Home recovery systems respectively.
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI:</p> <p><u>Reporting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Working with other jurisdictions to provide input and assistance to the National Projects Group in the development of a national methodology and co-ordination of implementation of a national project to report against this KPI. b) Reporting baseline data for total weight of consumer packaging recycled in Victoria. <p><u>Education:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Conducting household attitudes survey on kerbside recycling. b) Ongoing co-ordination and support to councils, organisations, schools and businesses in implementing the Waste Wise Program with a process of continual improvement. c) Ongoing employment of Regional Education Officers in each of the 16 Waste Management Regions. d) Fostering community ownership and participation in waste management issues through community education and engagement. e) Using school-based programs as the means to achieve long-term understanding and behavioural changes. f) Funding support for the establishment of major exhibits and educational resources at education centres and community outreach activities. g) Raising community awareness of the range of factors that impact on the kerbside collection system at the local level. This will be achieved through the distribution of educational materials, the conduct of an Annual Zero Waste Week, community forums/workshops, campaigns and partnership programs and through other communication activities undertaken by Sustainability Victoria. <p><u>Improved Systems:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Completing review of two key documents: the Model Split Contracts for Collection and Sorting and the Accreditation Program for collectors and sorters. <p><u>Funding:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing funding to councils for waste minimisation and recycling linked to the Best Practice Kerbside Recycling Program (KPI 11). b) Providing funding directly or through the NPCC and the NPG for projects that contribute to Covenant objectives, particularly outcomes under KPIs 10-16.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p><u>Reporting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) EPA has supported a significant data collection project (led by NSW) that identifies tonnages of recyclables collected by Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) by material type, and tonnages sent on to re-processors. This project will also enable data to be obtained on recyclable materials collected from both households and 'away

	<p>from home' sources. The project is currently in its final stages. b) See Goal 1 KPI 8b)</p> <p><u>Education</u></p> <p>a) A <i>Household Attitude to Recycling Survey</i> was undertaken in September 2004 with the results published/released in February 2005. The survey consisted of 754 telephone interviews and 25 in-depth home face-to-face interviews. (Data reported in the EcoRecycle Victoria annual report 2004-05)</p> <p>b) A total of 130 organisations, 113 events and 36 schools were Waste Wise certified in 2005-06. This included priority sectors of local government/health and CBDs in Geelong, Melbourne and Bendigo. A total of 137 teachers were trained through the waste wise schools program.</p> <p>c) Sustainability Victoria continued to provide funding and support to regional Education Officers employed by the Regional Waste Management Groups.</p> <p>d) An education and outreach resource kit is in conceptual development phase. This is targeted for completion in the 2006-07 year.</p> <p>e) 137 teachers were trained through the waste wise schools program.</p> <p>f) In conjunction with MetroWest Waste, a science works exhibit has been developed with other sponsors. The exhibit is titled "Recyclatron" exhibit.</p> <p>g) Community awareness of kerbside collection was addressed via the various community programs undertaken through Sustainability Victoria. The annual Zero Waste Week was held on 23rd October 2005. A number of events were held during the week, with the major highlight being the launch of the Litter Campaign, PNEB advertising and 'trash fashion challenge' at Collins Place.</p> <p><u>Improved Systems</u></p> <p>a) The development of new model split contracts and accreditation program was completed and launched in February 2006. These can be accessed on the Sustainability Victoria website and now override the old model contracts and accreditation program developed in 2000-01.</p> <p><u>Funding</u></p> <p>a) See KPI 11b)</p> <p>b) Victoria has fulfilled funding commitments outlined in Schedule 6 of the Covenant.</p>
KPI 10	Total weight of recycled consumer packaging sold to end-users.
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to undertaking the following actions to contribute to this KPI:</p> <p>a) Conducting an annual survey of the recycling processing industry to provide information on materials recycled to complement the jurisdictional survey requirements of the National Environment Protection (Used Packaging Materials) Measure (NEPM) and local government reporting requirements under the NEPM.</p> <p><i>Refer to Actions listed under KPI 5 that will also contribute to these outcomes.</i></p>
Report against	a) Annual survey of recycling industries for the 2004-05 year was

2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	publicly released in August 2005. The survey for the 2005-06 year has been disseminated to stakeholders.
KPI 11	
Number of Councils operating according to good practice collection principles and state-based benchmarks.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI: a) Maintaining systems for collecting data from Victorian local Councils for annual reporting against this KPI. b) Providing ongoing financial support to metropolitan and rural Councils to assist them in adopting best practice standards for kerbside recycling. c) Continued management of projects approved for implementation under the best practice program on an ongoing basis throughout 2005-06, in parallel with existing programs to minimise costs and overheads. Includes provision for up to 5 additional metropolitan and up to 5 additional regional Councils during 2005-06.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) Sustainability Victoria continues to carry out the Local Government Data Collection Survey annually with local governments now able to submit surveys on-line. This process is supported by an access database. The 2004-05 data will be released in September/October 2006. The 2005-06 survey was disseminated to local governments in August 2006. b) Financial assistance has been provided to local governments totalling approximately \$2.2 million for the 2005-06 year. c) Continued funding support has been provided to local government for implementation of best practice kerbside recycling systems. A total of 7 new councils were funded to partially offset the costs associated with implementing new kerbside recycling systems, bringing the total number of councils funded under the Best Practice Kerbside Recycling Program to 41.
KPI 12	
Percentage of households with access to kerbside collection systems.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI: a) Maintain systems for collecting data from Victorian local Councils for annual reporting against this KPI. <i>Refer to KPI 11.</i>
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) Sustainability Victoria coordinates the collection of data from Victorian local councils to report against this KPI. Ninety six percent of Victorian households have access to kerbside collection.
KPI 13	
Percentage of households with access to other domestic collection systems.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI: a) Maintaining systems for collecting data from Victorian local Councils for annual reporting against this KPI. <i>Refer to actions listed under KPI 11.</i>
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) Sustainability Victoria collects data to enable annual reporting against this KPI.

KPI 14 Number of commercial and industrial premises with packaging recycling collection systems.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to contributing to this KPI through: a) The Waste Wise program, Sustainability Victoria will work with the following sectors to increase the total number of packaging recycling collection systems in the C&I stream: CBD office, hotels, tourism, regional (Bendigo and Geelong) and events.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) 130 government bodies, organisations, businesses, health facilities and community organisations were certified as Waste Wise in 2005-06. This is an increase of 60% on 2004-05, and includes 15 hotels (new) and 52 CBD offices in Melbourne, Geelong and Bendigo. Waste Wise supports 242 network members.
KPI 15 Percentage of Councils and government agencies providing public place recycling infrastructure.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI: a) Maintain systems for collecting data from Victorian local councils for annual reporting against this KPI. b) Provide financial support and guidance to local Councils in establishing additional (and enhancing the effectiveness of) existing away from home recycling infrastructure. c) Support public place and event recycling through funding for the infrastructure, maintenance and storage of bin caps and away from home recycling bins, assistance to events in becoming Waste Wise and continued dissemination of the Public Place Recycling Guidelines supported by grants to high use public sites. d) Promote the use of Sustainability Victoria's Public Place Recycling Guidelines. e) Establish additional Public Place Recycling infrastructure. f) Co-ordinate and run certified Waste Wise Events.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) Data collected from Victorian local councils regarding the availability and installation of public place recycling bins in 2005-06 as part of the Local Government – Litter and Street Sweeping - Survey undertaken in 2005-06. Twenty-two Local governments have to date installed 661 bins. This is an increase of three further councils from 2003-04 and a 13.5% increase in the number of bins available statewide. b) Sustainability Victoria has supported public place recycling (PPR) through the provision of guidelines promoted to all grants recipients, through the Sustainability Victoria website and through training and education networks. The supply of bin caps to events state wide increased significantly; a new Waste Wise events and toolkit and training package was delivered statewide. c) 18 major tourist and recreation sites completed new PPR infrastructure. Sustainability Victoria has also committed to funding 24 new sites to be completed in 2006-07. d) See 'b' e) See 'c' f) 115 certified waste wise events attended by over 3 million people were held.

KPI 16	Percentage of signatories providing recycling collection facilities for post-consumer packaging generated on-site.
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Obtaining data relating to the number of Government Departments providing on-site collection facilities for post-consumer packaging. b) Utilising our whole of government Environmental Management System (EMS) to increase the number of recycling collection facilities provided by Government Departments for post-consumer packaging generated on-site.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Most departments now provide on-site recycling collection facilities for post-consumer packaging at CBD and/or regional offices.

GOAL 3 – CONSUMERS ABLE TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT CONSUMPTION, USE AND DISPOSAL OF PACKAGING OF PRODUCTS.	
KPI 17 Amount and type of consumer packaging in the litter stream.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI: a) Working with other jurisdictions to develop a national methodology for reporting against this KPI. b) Coordinating implementation of Victorian-based litter survey in accordance with agreed national methodology. c) Reporting results of Victorian component litter survey to NPCC in 2005/2006 Annual Report. <i>Refer to Actions listed under KPI 20 which are aimed at improving littering behaviour.</i>
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) See KPI 20 b) See KPI 20 c) See KPI 20
KPI 18 Contamination rates in consumer packaging recovery systems (eg. kerbside, events, venues, public places, workplaces).	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against this KPI: a) Working with other jurisdictions to develop a national methodology for reporting against this KPI. b) Co-ordinating implementation of Victorian component of survey in accordance with agreed national methodology. c) Reporting results of Victorian component of survey to NPCC in 2005/2006 Annual Report. d) Ongoing implementation of consumer awareness and education campaigns, refer to Actions for KPI 9.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Local Government recycling survey data identifies contamination rates in kerbside and other collection systems. Data for the 2005-06 year is not yet available. The contamination rate for 2004-05 was 10.2%, an increase of 2.6% from 2003-04 due to the increased number of co-mingled bins. Co mingled bins are likely to have slightly higher contamination rates but recover greater volumes of recyclable materials.
KPI 19 Improvements in consumer knowledge about the functional attributes of packaging, including recyclability/reuse.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to undertaking the following actions to contribute to this KPI: a) Continual provision of public information relating to the recyclability of different packaging materials through Waste Wise School and Event Programs. b) Providing Victoria's contribution (approximately \$50,000 pa) to the total amount of Government revenue required to fund Covenant administration (ie. approximately \$375,000 pa).
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) See KPI 9 – <u>Education</u> b) Victoria has yet to be invoiced for Covenant administration.
KPI 20 Improvements in littering behaviour.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to:

Plan Commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Working with other jurisdictions to develop national methodology for reporting against this KPI. b) Co-ordinating implementation of Victorian litter survey in accordance with national methodology. c) Reporting results of Victorian component of survey to NPCC in 2005-06 Annual Report. d) Focusing government resources in the lead up to the Commonwealth Games (March 2006) to support the Commonwealth Games Environment Framework initiative for a litter free Games. e) Continuing work by the Government's Victorian Litter Action Alliance (VLAA) (est. 2000/01) to provide a comprehensive, complementary and consistent approach to reducing litter in the Victorian environment to acceptable levels through the combined efforts of state and local government agencies, the voluntary and private sectors. f) Continuing to employ the Victorian "Litter champion" as the central point of information gathering and dissemination, coordination of programs and implementation of best practice litter kit and guidelines. g) Continuing to provide grants directed to local governments, regions and community groups to undertake model litter prevention projects. These projects will provide models of best practice application. Greater emphasis will be placed on ensuring evaluation of outcomes in litter reduction. h) Allocating funding towards employment of a dedicated Litter Enforcement Program Officer to enhance the litter enforcement capabilities of partner agencies, particularly Local Government, through providing enhanced training. i) Continuing to provide support to the Keep Australia Beautiful (Victoria) (KABV) for the Tidy Towns, Clean Beach Challenge Award Programs and the Clean Sites Program to promote litter prevention and control throughout Victoria. j) Continuing to implement the Best Practice Litter Prevention Kit. k) In partnership with Melbourne Water and municipalities in the Lower Yarra Catchment, developing and implementing a comprehensive action plan to reduce litter and improve water quality.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The EPA and Sustainability Victoria are leading a program with other jurisdictions to develop a nationally consistent littering behaviour methodology. b) Litter data is collected under the Victorian Littering Monitoring Protocol of 2003. The last full survey was undertaken in 2005. This survey is consistent with other methodologies developed by the former Beverage Industry Environment Council (BIEC) on the basis of size of area assessed; categories; location similarities. Highlights from the 2005 report demonstrate that the littering score (litter count and behavioural measures) has improved from 64/100 in 2003 to 68/100 in 2005 – which represents an improvement of 6.25% and is already above the 2006 target level set by the Towards Zero Waste strategy for Victoria of 67/100. c) Littering behaviour data was provided to the NPCC for publication in the annual report. d) Sustainability Victoria lead an extensive \$1.6 million advertising campaign prior to and post the Commonwealth Games including coverage in television and print media. Education kits were distributed and over \$200,000 provided in grants to support regional

	<p>initiatives. Littering behaviour during the Games was the lowest level ever recorded in Australia with less than 10% of people littering (vs previous benchmark of 30%)</p> <p>e) Victoria has supported the Victorian Litter Action Alliance primarily through secretariat support and the provision of funding (\$15,000) for a review of the Alliance. The Alliance review led to the review of the 1995 Litter Reduction Strategy (commenced September 2006) to develop an up to date Strategy for Victoria (EPA/Sustainability Victoria funding \$100,000 2006-07 financial year).</p> <p>f) Victoria provided financial (\$175,000) and secretariat support for the litter champion position at VLAA. Illegal dumping forums were held across the state involving around 230 delegates from local government and other land managers. An illegal dumping module of best practice litter prevention kit supported these skills development events. An evaluation module and a campaign toolkit were also developed as well as guidelines for managing litter in designated smoking areas and litter prevention road sign guidelines approved by VicRoads. Further skills based litter prevention workshops were held for another 70 participants. The Litter Champion undertook a leadership role in the public relations component of the Victorian Government's Commonwealth Games Litter Campaign. Working with the public relations consultant and Sustainability Victoria, a range of ready to use resource materials were developed for local government and other organisations, such as a series of fact sheets, tips on how to involve local communities and organise a community event, checklists, litter free games for kids and a litter quiz. The Litter Campaign received a national bronze (commended) award in the Public Relations Institute of Australia 2006 Golden Target Awards and a silver (highly commended) award for Victoria.</p> <p>g) The 2005-06 grants were awarded in October 2005. Funding totalling \$300,000 was awarded to 22 projects across the state. The projects represent litter prevention activities across 15 regions of Victoria involving over 55% of local councils. These projects applied integrated models of best practice, represent multi-partnered commitment and actively sought and encouraged community involvement in program development, delivery and evaluation. Some of the projects included; Commonwealth Games regional roadside litter campaign, litter prevention billboard trailer project, Melbourne's multicultural communities taking on no litter message and Whitehorse litter and dumped rubbish campaign.</p> <p>h) EPA Victoria funded a dedicated officer to deliver the Litter Enforcement Program for partners including 65 local councils, other land and water authorities such as Parks Victoria and water catchment authorities. The program includes the development of a Litter Enforcement Tool Kit, building stronger working relationships between key authorities, enhanced officer support and guidance and to assist in the development of more consistent approach to litter enforcement across the state. A draft kit has been released for comment with the final version available in early 2007.</p> <p>i) Sustainability Victoria continues to provide funding, advice and expertise to Keep Australia Beautiful (Victoria) (KABV) for the annual Tidy Towns, Clean Beach Challenge Award Programs and the Clean Sites Program to promote litter prevention and control throughout Victoria.</p> <p>j) Litter prevention kit – as per 'f'.</p>
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	<p>k) The Lower Yarra Litter Strategy aims to reduce litter loads in the Lower Yarra River and build ongoing strategies to improve the overall water quality in the Yarra catchment. The project group consisting of Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, Sustainability Victoria, and the Cities of Melbourne, Stonnington, Boroondara and Yarra, is developing integrated strategies such as infrastructure provision and community engagement/education.</p> <p>An implementation plan is now complete and major litter prevention programs have commenced across all 4 councils. The project runs until November 2007.</p>
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GOAL 4 – SUPPLY CHAIN MEMBERS AND OTHER SIGNATORIES ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THEIR ACTIONS CONTRIBUTE TO GOALS (1)–(3) ABOVE.	
KPI 21 Estimated tonnage of consumer packaging recycled and sent to landfill respectively, from on-site collection facilities.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to: a) Commence development of consistent methodology for undertaking audits of waste and recycling streams (including consumer packaging and paper) generated by Government Departments (refer to Additional Action 30).
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) A consistent methodology for undertaking audits of waste and recycling streams had been established as part of the Whole of Victorian Government EMS program. The <i>FRD24 - Data Collection Guidance Manual</i> was published in July 2005 to assist Government entities (Departments and relevant Agencies) to collect, analyse and report on their office-based environmental impacts in a consistent and accurate manner, and to assist in the reporting of robust data to the Victorian Government and community.
KPI 22 Number of signatories who have formally adopted the ECoPP and developed systems for its implementation.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Not applicable to jurisdictions.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	- Not applicable -
KPI 23 Application of Covenant compliance procedures by NPCC to identify non-complying signatories.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to: a) Following up on all NPCC referrals of non-compliant signatories who are based in Victoria.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) No non-compliant signatories were reported to Victoria during the period.
KPI 24 Implementation of NEPM procedures by jurisdictions.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government will undertake the following actions to report against and contribute to this KPI: a) Maintaining internal records regarding the number of companies contacted. b) Developing a state-based instrument for implementation of the NEPM in Victoria. c) Applying nationally agreed methodology to conduct an audit of records kept by Victorian brand owners who are not signatories to the National Packaging Covenant (as per Cl. 16(4) of the NEPM). d) Applying nationally agreed methodology to conduct a survey of packaged products sold by retailers and/or surveys of brand owners represented in materials recovery systems in Victoria (as per Cl. 18 of NEPM). e) Submitting an annual report on implementation of NEPM in Victoria to the National Environment Protection Council (NEPC). f) Liaising with other jurisdictions regarding implementation of the NEPM, as required.
Report against	a) EPA has maintained records of known brand owners that are non-

2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>signatories to the Covenant. Over 50 brand owners that are not signatories to the Covenant have been contacted during the reporting period.</p> <p>b) The <i>National Environment Protection Measure (Used Packaging Materials)</i> is implemented in Victoria through statutory policy, <i>Waste Management Policy (Used Packaging Materials) 2006</i> (the Policy). The Policy was gazetted and commenced on 28 March 2006 under the <i>Environment Protection Act 1970</i>. The primary purpose of the Policy is to establish a statutory basis for ensuring that signatories to the National Packaging Covenant are not competitively disadvantaged in the marketplace by fulfilling their commitments under the National Packaging Covenant. The <i>Environment Protection (Amendment) Act 2006</i> has strengthened EPA enforcement capabilities.</p> <p>c) Audit process currently being developed.</p> <p>d) Victoria has worked with other jurisdictions to develop a nationally agreed brand owner identification methodology. This approach is designed to provide a more comprehensive audit by adopting a coordinated approach between jurisdictions that targets major retail product categories. This approach replaces the sampling of material recovery facilities used in previous years and will deliver baseline data by the end of 2006.</p> <p>e) A report outlining implementation of the NEPM was submitted to the National Environment Protection Council for the 2005-06 period.</p> <p>f) Victoria has liaised with other jurisdictions regarding implementation of the NEPM.</p>
KPI 25 Enforcement of the NEPM to “free-riders” and non-complying Covenant signatories.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to:</p> <p>a) Maintaining internal records regarding the number of formal enforcement actions taken.</p> <p>b) Applying EPA’s <i>Enforcement Policy</i> in implementation and enforcement of the NEPM.</p>
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>Victoria has commenced implementation of the Policy, targeting brand owners through the use of direct mail techniques. EPA Victoria wrote to all Victorian brand owners that were signatories to the previous Covenant who had not resigned, informing them of their obligations under the Policy and the options open to them.</p> <p>Brand owners were directed to advise EPA within 30 days of their preferred option, which included re-signing the Covenant, to remain subject to the Policy and provide mandated information, or provide evidence of their exemption under the \$5 million threshold. The objective of the letters is to encourage businesses to sign the Covenant. Companies that choose not to participate in the Covenant are subject to the provisions of the <i>Waste Management Policy (Used Packaging Materials)</i> which will be enforced by EPA, including through the use of statutory notices.</p>
KPI 26 Implementation of Buy Recycled purchasing policy or practices.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Victorian Government is committed to:</p> <p>a) Ongoing implementation of the Buy Recycled Purchasing Policy Program for local government (through EcoBuy formerly known as the Local Government Buy Recycled Alliance) and state government</p>

	<p>(through the EMS framework) and provision of assistance for environmental purchasing decision-making and waste management.</p> <p>b) Provision of funding for implementation and co-ordination of the ECO-Buy Program.</p> <p>c) Collaborating with local government and industry to promote the ECO-Buy Program (http://www.mav.asn.au/ecobuy).</p> <p>d) Ongoing promotion of environmental purchasing policies and program resources.</p>
<p>Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments</p>	<p>a) The Victorian Government continues to support the implementation of recycled products purchasing policies and practices with both the EcoBuy Program and through its departmental EMS activities. EcoBuy is in the process of extending services to the business community and establishing itself as an independent company limited by guarantee. To date a total 59 local governments are members of the EcoBuy program and a number of businesses, including Toyota, Transurban and VicSuper have become members. The value of recycled product sales in calendar year 2005 was \$39.2m, up from \$22.6m in the previous year. All government departments use the EMS framework to provide assistance for environmental purchasing decision-making and waste management.</p> <p>b) Funding of \$270K was provided during 2005-06. This was to fund an executive officer to manage and expand the EcoBuy program to meet needs of local government and business. Funding was also provided for a resource officer to provide services to the Commonwealth Games suppliers. Sustainability Victoria consistently promotes the EcoBuy program through various communications, publications and the Sustainability Victoria website. Green purchasing is also a key element of the Waste Wise Program as a performance measure.</p> <p>c) Sustainability Victoria continues to collaborate with local governments and industry to promote the EcoBuy program through training programs and presentations to industry and local government networks.</p> <p>d) All departments have undertaken actions to promote environmental purchasing policies or programs through the provision of advice or resources.</p>

GOAL 5 – ALL SIGNATORIES DEMONSTRATE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR MANAGEMENT OF PACKAGING THROUGH THEIR INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLANS AND ANNUAL REPORTS.	
KPI 27 Establishment of baseline performance data.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to: a) Establishing relevant new internal record systems and external data collection systems. b) Maintaining relevant existing internal record systems and external data collection systems. c) Working with other jurisdictions to develop national methodology for consistent reporting against jurisdictional KPIs, as required.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Victoria has developed and maintained systems to measure internal performance (eg. Whole of Victorian Government Environmental Management System) and external data collection systems (eg. Brand Owner Audit survey methodology). Victoria has contributed to the development of methodologies for all national projects.
KPI 28 Annual Reporting against Action Plan.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to a) Preparing and submitting an annual report against this Action Plan to NPCC.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) Annual Report submitted.
KPI 29 Demonstrated improvement and achievements against individual targets & milestones.	
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	The Victorian Government is committed to: a) Maintaining relevant internal records and external data collection systems. b) Setting targets and milestones in our Action Plans. c) Reporting progress against these targets and milestones in our annual reports. d) Continuous improvement against the targets and milestones set out in this Action Plan.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	a) The Whole of Victorian Government Environmental Management System requires departments to maintain internal records and external data collection systems. The Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability ensures annual external audits are conducted of all government departments EMSs. b) Targets are set out in the Victorian Government Action Plan. c) Performance reported in the Victorian Government annual report. d) Continuous improvements against targets and milestones as reported in Victorian Government annual report.

KPI 30	Additional Actions
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>30. <i>Victorian Government Environmental Management System (EMS)</i>: The Victorian Government is committed to implementing the following actions to build on previous work undertaken in the establishment and development of the Government Environmental Management System (EMS) and Environmental Reporting framework (introduced in 2002):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ongoing requirement for Departments to include information relating to waste management and environmental performance in their Annual Reports, reported in accordance with <i>FRD24 Reporting of Office-Based Environmental Impacts by Government Departments</i>. b) Requiring Departments to implement an EMS to reduce their office-based environmental impact of waste production, paper consumption, energy use, transportation and water consumption. c) Requiring Departments to comply with the Victorian Government's Green Purchasing policy. d) Requiring each Department to commission an independent EPA appointed environmental auditor to audit implementation of their EMS on an annual basis. e) As per KPI 21, commence development of consistent methodology for waste audits (including consumer packaging and paper) of Government premises. f) Development of a guideline on the National Packaging Covenant to assist Government Departments in complying with Victorian Government obligations as a Covenant signatory. The guideline will include: relevant definitions and other guidance as required. g) Ensuring that Government Department EMS Co-ordinators meet on a regular basis to identify opportunities to apply Covenant principles across departments and agencies. A representative from EPA / Sustainability Victoria will attend these meetings at least quarterly to provide guidance in relation to Covenant signatory obligation and relevant Covenant developments.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p>Commencing with the 2003-04 reporting period, agencies participating in the Whole of Victorian Government Environmental Management System (WoVG EMS) have been required to have their EMS audited annually by an environmental auditor appointed under the <i>Environment Protection Act 1970</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) All departments include information relating to waste management and environmental performance in their Annual Reports, reported in accordance with <i>FRD24 Reporting of Office-Based Environmental Impacts by Government Departments</i>. b) All departments have appointed a coordinator to implement an EMS to reduce their office-based environmental impact of waste production, paper consumption, energy use, transportation and water consumption. c) Departments are compliant with the Victorian Government's Green Purchasing policy. d) For the previous two audit cycles each agency had engaged a statutory auditor as part of the team to conduct each annual EMS audit of their agency. The 2006 environmental audits are now managed by the Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability (OCES) as a joint initiative between the agencies and

	<p>OCES to streamline the process of engagement of the independent agency audits and the Commissioner's strategic audit. Independent agency audit reports will be developed for each agency, with each agency's finalised report being submitted to the Commissioner by the end of October 2006.</p> <p>e) See KPI 21</p> <p>f) EPA developed a guideline document to assist EMS coordinators to comply with Covenant. The document outlines Covenant details and definitions.</p> <p>g) Government EMS coordinators meet approximately every 6 weeks. The EPA EMS representative ensures that coordinators are regularly updated on the progress of the Covenant. A specific Covenant information session was conducted in March 2006.</p>
<p>KPI 31 Additional Actions</p>	
<p>2005-06 Action Plan Commitments</p>	<p><i>Providing assistance to Victorian small business Covenant signatories:</i> The Government recognises that small businesses have lesser capacity than larger businesses to meet their obligations as signatories to the National Packaging Covenant. Generally, small businesses within the packaging supply chain have a lesser impact on the environment than larger businesses however collectively, small businesses across Australia have a substantive impact on the environment. Therefore, it is important that support is provided to small businesses within the packaging supply chain to assist them in meeting their Covenant obligations and in working towards the Covenant objectives and overarching targets.</p> <p>Further, the Used Packaging Materials NEPM states that: "it is not the intention of the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) that enforceable obligations be placed on brand owners that do not significantly contribute to the waste stream".</p> <p>The Victorian Government is committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing technical assistance and guidance to small business signatories to assist them in meeting their Covenant obligations. • Offering workshops and programs aimed at providing technical assistance to small business signatories in meeting their Covenant obligations.
<p>Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments</p>	<p>EPA Victoria provided direct assistance to numerous small business owners around the implementation of Covenant objectives. The \$5 million exemption threshold introduced by Ministers in 2005 reduced the proportion of signatories in the small business category.</p>
<p>KPI 32 Additional Actions</p>	
<p>2005-06 Action Plan Commitments</p>	<p><i>Contribution to National Packaging Covenant funding arrangements:</i> The total amount of Government revenue required to match industry's contribution for the funding of transitional arrangements is approximately \$13.25 million (ie. \$2.6 million pa), with a total contribution of approximately \$3.3 million (ie. \$660,000 pa) from the Victorian Government. The Victorian Government's contribution to the Covenant funding arrangements will come on stream during 2005-06 and will be expended through a Victorian Jurisdictional Projects Group (JPG) (formerly the Victorian Jurisdictional Recycling Group - JRG) comprised of industry, local government and Government representatives who are signatories to the National Packaging Covenant. The former Victorian JRG was active from the end of 1999 to mid 2005.</p>

	The current Victorian JPG began meeting in July 2005. The Government will ensure that any amount over and above the amount explicitly required to match industry funds will be expended on activities that support the National Packaging Covenant.
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Total funding is yet to be fully expended due to delays in the Covenant transition process, however significant funding has been provided to local government to increase the number of councils implementing best practice kerbside recycling systems, and expanded public place recycling programs. See KPI 11 and 15 for details.
KPI 33	Additional Actions
2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	<p><i>Participation and contribution to regular forums regarding the National Packaging Covenant:</i></p> <p>Victorian Government representatives will participate and contribute to the following regular multi-stakeholder forums regarding implementation and progress of the National Packaging Covenant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian Jurisdictional Projects Group (JPG); • National Projects Group (NPG); and • National Packaging Covenant Council (NPCC).
Report against 2005-06 Action Plan Commitments	Victoria has provided representation at both NPG (Sustainability Victoria) and NPCC (EPA) meetings during the reporting period. Both EPA and Sustainability Victoria have provided secretariat services for the Victorian Jurisdictional Projects Group (JPG).

Nominated Contact Officer:

Scott McKenzie
 Waste Management Unit
 Environment Protection Authority
 GPO Box 4395QQ
 MELBOURNE VIC 3001
 03 9695 2526
 scott.mckenzie@epa.vic.gov.au