

## Colm Lambert (DECC)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday 30 April 2021 11:31  
**To:** wastecomments  
**Subject:** Deposit Return Scheme - Public Consultation - Submission

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Hi.

I completely support the introduction of a deposit return scheme in Ireland however, I am concerned that the proposed scheme does not include TetraPak lined containers which are problematic to recycle. PET bottles once recycled can be reused in a circular economy to make new PET bottles. I would be very fearful that these tetraPak containers were omitted from the proposed scheme.

I believe that many producers will simply change over to these TetraPak containers. Indeed several have already been introduced in the Irish Market - see Tipperary Water image below. Such packaging would be exempt from the deposits and therefore priced more advantageously to consumers which would encourage producers to transition to these packaging formats - which are extremely difficult to recycle due to their internal plastic lining. In Ireland these TetraPak products can only be put into landfill or incinerators - they are not in fact recyclable and cannot be reused in a circular manner. If Ireland is genuinely serious about tackling the issue of single use plastics, the exclusion of these TetraPak's from the deposit scheme will only lead to a complete switch from bottled water and soft drink products to these formats - which will be an unintended consequence and only serve to make recycling more difficult.

I would suggest that TetraPak products should also be included in the proposed Deposit Return Scheme so as to deliver a real win rather than an optical win for the environment. As TetraPak products cannot be recycled in Ireland and there would be a significant rise in these products in the Irish Market as producers move from PET to TetraPak, if there is no incentive to consumers to dispose of these products responsibly (no deposit = no incentive) we are simply moving the problem from one material to another!

Regards  
[REDACTED]

