

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021**BSC Welcomes Government funding support for Battery Stewardship Scheme**

"Today's announcement by the Hon Minister Sussan Ley of the \$1 million grant for the development and implementation of the BSC's Battery Stewardship Scheme is much appreciated". said BSC CEO, Ms Libby Chaplin. "This funding comes at a critical time as it will enable the Battery Stewardship Council and its partners to mobilise resources necessary to realise our mission to build a national Scheme for battery stewardship in Australia" "It also gives industry the confidence to invest in green jobs and infrastructure necessary to ensure that collected batteries are safely and responsibly recycled".

In 2019, Australian's purchased enough equivalent AA to stretch around the earth 2.3 times, but by 2050, this will increase to 36 times. All batteries are hazardous to some degree and it is important we need to prepare now to ensure that all used batteries are safely and responsibly disposed of.

Mr Gerry Morvell, Chair of the BSC noted the importance of this industry government partnership "With the funding from government and industry combined, the BSC is now in a position to invest in systems necessary to facilitate a safe national collection network for Australia" Further he indicated "In addition to operational systems, the BSC will focus on increasing awareness of battery hazards and how to reduce them".

This funding builds on the foundational work conducted by industry over the past 4 years with the support, engagement and funding provided by the QLD government on behalf of all state jurisdictions.

David Pattinson, Business Director at Energizer Australia Pty Ltd said of the grant "Energizer welcomes the grant provided by the Australian Government today to the Battery Stewardship Council with the purpose of developing a sustainable and inclusive battery collection and recycling program. Energizer also today has committed a significant upfront investment into this program and looks forward to working with the government and BSC in seeing this through to implementation."

"Today's funding announcement from the Government in support of battery stewardship in Australia represents a significant partnership between industry and government" said Duracell's General Manager Australia, NZ and South East Asia, Mariusz Surmacz. He added "Duracell is committed to support the Battery Stewardship Council and is looking forward to contributing to the creation of this essential scheme".

For more information, click on the Resources page of the BSC Website and chose Fact Sheets and Scheme Documents

**Contacts**

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