



**TERRY MILLS** MLA | **Member for BLAIN**  
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **DATE SET FOR CONTAINER DEPOSIT LEGAL CHALLENGE**

---

December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Chief Minister Terry Mills today welcomed confirmation from the three multi-national corporations challenging the Northern Territory's container deposit legislation that they will continue to participate in the scheme until a Court makes a final decision on its validity.

The Northern Territory Government appeared in the Federal Court of Australia in Sydney to fight claims by Coca Cola Amatil, who have now been joined by Schweppes Australia and Lion Pty Ltd, that our container deposit legislation is legally invalid.

The Chief Minister also welcomed an assurance on Tuesday from the Australian Food and Grocery Council, who represent the corporations challenging CDL amongst others, that should the scheme be thrown out by the Court, manufacturers will pass on the cost reductions to Territorians.

"The government supports deposits on containers, but will of course abide by any decision of the courts regarding this legislation," Mr Mills said.

"If it is found to be invalid, then I welcome today's assurance by manufacturers they will pass on price reductions.

"When the scheme was introduced the actions taken by the Council and others in the industry caused substantial increases in the price of many goods.

"We expect similar reductions in price in the event of the scheme being ruled invalid.

"Today I have written to our local operators and informed them of these latest developments, but in the meantime it is business as usual for the scheme."

The legal challenge will be finally heard in Sydney on 19 February 2013 before Justice Griffiths.

**Media Contact:**

Camden Smith 0488 588 754  
Lisa Andrews 0401 579 963