



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Peter Garrett MP

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

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Reports today that the Federal Government will introduce a levy of up to \$1 per plastic bag are incorrect.

While the Federal Government is committed to the objective of phasing out single use, light weight, plastic shopping bags by 1 January 2009, under no circumstances will the Federal Government introduce a new levy to achieve this.

All environment ministers - state, territory and commonwealth - will meet in April to consider a range of options in the phasing out of plastic bags.

The Federal Government will not support or promote any option for a Federal Government levy to achieve this objective.