



# MEDIA RELEASE

**The Hon Peter Garrett MP**

*Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts*

PG /66

6 May 2008

## **MINISTER WELCOMES CONSULTATION ON WASTE TYRES**

Minister for the Environment, Peter Garrett, today announced the release of a consultation package on end-of-life tyres for public comment.

Mr Garrett said the consultation followed the April meeting of the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC), which agreed to move forward with a nationally consistent approach to managing end-of-life tyres.

“This joint industry/government approach is a great achievement and I particularly welcome the commitment of the tyre industry to finding a solution to the problems associated with end-of-life tyres.

“In Australia, approximately 240,000 tonnes of end-of-life tyres enter the waste stream each year. These are landfilled, stockpiled or illegally dumped,” Mr Garrett said.

“The proposed recycling scheme will drive innovation, decrease environmental impacts and build end-of-life management costs into product prices.

“I encourage all interested stakeholders to comment on the proposed scheme during the consultation period, which runs from May to July.”

During this time, public forums on the proposed scheme will be held in major cities across Australia. Further details including dates and the process for making written submissions are available on the EPHC website [www.ephc.gov.au](http://www.ephc.gov.au).