

Your submission to Proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

Reference no: 1009

Submitter Type: Individual

Clause

1. Do you agree with the proposed mandatory phase out of the sale or distribution of single-use plastic shopping bags in New Zealand, including those made of degradable (eg, oxo-degradable, biodegradable and compostable) plastic? Why / why not?

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

2. We have proposed a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags. This could include under 50 microns or under 70 microns in thickness. If you agree with a mandatory phase out, which option do you prefer, and why?

Position

less than 70 microns in thickness

Notes

Clause

3. Are you aware of types of single-use plastic shopping bags that should be exempt from a mandatory phase out?

Position

Not sure

Notes

Clause

4. Do you currently manufacture, sell, provide or import for sale or personal use these types of single-use plastic shopping bags:

Position

No

Notes

Clause

5. Should smaller retailers be exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags? Why / why not?

Position

No

Notes

there is no reason why smaller retailers should be exempt. customers will adapt if they don't have a choice and will bring a bag or carry the goods in their hands.

Clause

7. The proposed mandatory phase-out period for single-use plastic shopping bags is at least six months from when regulations are Gazetted , subject to consultation. Do you agree with this timing?

Position

Yes

Notes

the quicker the better

Clause

8. Do you agree that the benefits expected from implementing a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags exceed the costs expected from implementing the phase out? Why / why not? Please consider both monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits (those that can be measured by money as well as those that can't).

Position

Yes

Notes

the phase out would reduce the amount of litter which would reduce council costs of clean up and there is also an adverse visual

impact to this litter. The impact on marine life is clear and they would be better off without plastic bags in their environment. Fossil fuel emissions would also decrease as these would no longer be manufactured and imported into NZ at great environmental cost given they are only used once or twice.

Clause

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

Position

Yes

Notes

There are plenty of alternatives already, I have been using the billboard bags from paper for trees which are only \$20 and last for years. these are made in NZ for recycled materials, there couldn't be a better solution. The supermarket reusable bags that are made in China are not good quality.

Clause

10. How can people be encouraged to reuse multiple-use shopping bags enough times to offset the environmental impacts of producing them? (select one or more)

Position

Other (please specify)

Notes

They can be encouraged to keep reusing their bags if there is no cheap alternative at the checkout.

Clause

11. What would help you and your family adjust to life without single-use plastic shopping bags?

Notes

We have already adjusted, it is very easy.

Clause

12. How can data on single-use plastic shopping bags and other single-use plastics entering the market and monitoring of reductions be improved?

Notes

MFE needs to start gathering this data as its very important. The government should make it compulsory for landfill and recycling operators to hand over all data on recycling and landfill volumes

Clause

13. Please provide any additional comments or suggestions about the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags.

Notes

I support this

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.