

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

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## Reference no: 221

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

Only for retail stores selling food or grocery goods to consumers for residential use or consumption.

### 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 50 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

Yes

### Notes

### Clause

3a. If yes, what are they and why should they be exempt?

### Notes

Bags that have a handle not made of plastic such as gift or up market bags which are re usable or have a strength rating that can withstand three soft drink bottles, lying on their side within the bag, and without breaking or the cap causing the side of the bag to break

### 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

Yes

### Notes

### Clause

6. If smaller retailers are exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags and they are defined by their number of full-time equivalent employees, what should that number be?

### Notes

If the retail shop front or branch has less than 10 full time equivalent employees they should be exempt

### 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

No

**Notes**

12 months.

**Clause**

7a. If no, what do you think would be a more appropriate phase-out period?

**Position**

one year

**Notes****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**

No

**Notes**

It should be considered that alternative products which cause more pollution could be used instead. Eg . Mitre 10 have already phased out plastic bags in Hawkes bay. Instead I just purchase one of their alternative bags for a dollar each time due to convenience. I think the pollution created during the production of those reusable bags may be greater than the biodegradable plastic bags they used to have, and I still only use the bags once. Those reusable bags also have a plastic base liner that contains more plastic mass than a single plastic bag.

**Clause**

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

**Position**

Not sure

**Notes**

Analyse transportation pollution for heavier weight alternatives, pollution caused during production

**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**

voluntary incentive schemes by individual retailers

**Notes**

Just because you can make an app does not mean there is a reason to make an app

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Equivalent plastic bags being made available for household waste. ( not large black bags or council bags). Supermarket plastic bags are excellent bin liners