

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

Reference no: 543

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

Do we really know how long biodegradable bags take to break down? It's a habit to take a real bag. People need to be forced to remember.

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?

Notes

I don't know what's best for the environment. Whatever's best, please.

Clause

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

Position

No

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

They can build a relationship with a maker of cloth bags, to have for sale and use.

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

50

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

Yes, but 6 months MAX.

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

Not sure

Notes

Sometimes we have to invest in the things we cannot necessarily see, or see benefit from quickly. NZers are generally too short-sighted and into short-term gain. We need to get rid of plastic bags.

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

I've been using cloth bags for years, They work well. You just have to be organised. I carry a mini zip-up bag with me all the time now. They use little space, but unzip into a good capacity.

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

This would not let me select more than one. All options, please.

Clause

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

Notes

We don't use them now.

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

That's a difficult one. People are reluctant to answer market research questions, especially if they're doing something the govt is trying to stop.

Clause

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

Notes

It's going to take time and money to get people thinking about carrying a bag. Govt subsidised small zip up bags (3x3inches) would be a start.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.