

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

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## Reference no: 6138

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

Yes because something needs to be done. I think getting rid of them all together (ie making it mandatory) is the best method forward otherwise nothing will change.

### 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

Other (please specify)

### Notes

Phase out all plastic bags, regardless of thickness. That said, I do use plastic bags myself occasionally, so I fully put my hand up saying I'll need to change my behaviour as well! :)

### 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

I can't think of any that should be exempt. Also can't think of a good reason why any should be exempt.

### 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

If you exempt small retailers, that's a lot of plastic bags that are still going to be generated. I'm in favour of ban all the plastic bags.

### 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

Not sure

### Notes

I'd like it to be ASAP but I understand it takes time to get comms out and systems sorted and such. So if this is the fastest possible, then ok I support it.

### 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**

I strongly believe it has to happen sooner or later. We can't continue using plastic the way we do, the negative impact is too great. So yes the costs of phasing them out may be large but it needs to be done. If not now, we're leaving the problem for a future generation. So might as well do it now. Its time.

**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**

We can wash out bins out or compost food (so need for a bin liner) and carry shopping out in the trolley. I think that works fine. It's an adjustment but people can adapt. I think we should give NZers credit - we can rise to the challenge. It's a change but its not that hard.

**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**

Make it all about the money - either a discount or every time you bring a reusable bag you earn points to redeem for rewards.