

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

Reference no: 10

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

Don't make any of them available - this is the only way to solve the environmental issue.

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

Ban the more the better!

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

Ban them all from every provider, whether it be big supermarket or clothing stores, of dairies or fish and chip takeaway shops. Banning them all is the only way to solve the issue. If some places can still provide them, then the issue isn't solved and plastic bags will continue to pollute our environment.

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

This should not be an option! No retailers should be exempt! Why let some retailers provide them, they will just end up back in our oceans.

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

It should be asap. Tackle the issue as soon as we can. The sooner bags are removed from retailers, the better. We don't need any more destroying our environment.

Clause

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

Position

Other (please specify)

Notes

It should be asap. One month max. Tackle the issue as soon as we can. The sooner bags are removed from retailers, the better. We don't need any more destroying our environment.

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

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 so many options of reusable plastic bags, they are available everywhere. It is so easy to change your habits and grab a reusable bag before you leave the house.

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

Change your habits and take a reusable one from home. We don't leave home without them, it's a habit to grab one on our way out the door. If I can do it, then so can everyone else. It's a no-brainer!

Clause

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

Notes

N/A. We don't use them. Once you take them away, people have to adjust, they'll have no choice. Within no time at all they get used to not having plastic bags available.

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

Have an app or website or number to text to report when you see a retailer offering them. I'd report any retailer I saw! Introduce fines ASAP if they are caught giving out bags, no second chances. Retailers will quickly change their habits, and so will consumers eg. bringing a bag from home when they can't get one from a retailer.

Clause

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

Notes

Ban all all asap! No levy, no second chances for retailers, just a flat out ban. A minority of people will complain at first but they will adjust to the change in no time. You can't not ban bags just because a minority of people complain that it is inconvenient to not have them.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.