

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

(Toni Owen)

Reference no: 1021

Submitter Type:

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, plastic is a huge problem for our ecosystem in general and biodegradable plastic need special conditions to actually biodegrade properly

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

Neither because under 50 or 70 microns is still plastic either way, less microns just means that they will catch the air easier & get blown around & disposed in places like the ocean/forests.

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

Grocery bags & shopping bags

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

No every little bit counts, it's 2018 and there's plenty of options out there. The complete ban will help stop any loop holes & more demand for alternatives will eventually mean that the prices of these will drop. Small sacrifices for a long term benefit need to be made

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

0

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

Yes and no because obviously businesses & people do need time to transition into the phase-out but also 6 months is a long time & people will just get comfortable

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

There is no planet B! We can't put a price on the environment, it either we make a change now or the future generations suffer

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

Packaging the food already comes in - cardboard boxes for instance why do we not reuse these when food already comes packaged in them? Stop being lazy, wash your bins. Reusable bags. Paper bags.

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

national information campaign and mobile phone app for shoppers

Notes

All the above, education is key to help change people's attitudes.

Clause

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

Notes

Not having the option to use single-use plastic bags at all. I/my family already go without single use plastic bags but not having the option to even get them or use them at all would be good, most just use them because they're convenient. Having more reusable alternatives available at checkouts would be ideal & shoppers would save money in the long run

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

Having an environmental tax

Clause

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

Notes

Phasing out single use plastic bags is only a small step to saving the environment & we need to start somewhere if we want to make some serious changes. We can't expect to grow our economy whilst destroying the same environment it's like a game of jenga - trying to build a tower (economy) whilst using the lower bricks (environment) it will eventually crash there isn't a price on the environment it needs time.