

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

(Jacob Moore)

Reference no: 1022

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

The plastic bag problem looms larger every day as they litter our environment and kill land animals and endangered marine life. We need to phase these out before the world goes in to a catastrophic state, with no return.

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

I agree with the proposal to phase out single-use plastic shopping bags. However, to phase out an item to which is currently being sold as a reusable plastic bag seems a little excessive. People need time to adjust to the change and find alternatives, as apposed to throwing them into the deep end.

Clause

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

Position

Not sure

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

N/A

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 we as a country are to phase out the use of plastics then we cannot exempt plastics for select businesses.

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

Could not happen sooner, the quicker that we can enforce these regulations the better.

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

Re-usable bags, boxes and crates. All of these can fit into the boot of your car and take up very little space.

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)

Notes

Countdown has recently brought the concept to New Zealand with its 'Bags for Good' scheme. This approach offers a free replacement bag to consumers when they bring in a worn-out multiple-use bag they have previously bought from the store, and the worn-out bag is put into a recycling system. With businesses using incentives like this, the bags are bound to be used more wisely.

Clause

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

Notes

We already reusable bags. However, taking away single use plastic bags would remove the likelihood of people picking one up when they forget.

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

Look at the impacts, share the impacts!!