

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

Matthew Maule

Reference no: 1077

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

I agree to the phase out of all single use plastics. Their use is lazy and unnecessary and ultimately harmful. Legislate and the economy will figure out how to do it (i have ideas, so smarter people than me will definitely resolve)

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, no exceptions.

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

We have created these things in the name of convenience. This has caused lazy behaviors. If you are selling something that people want/need, they will figure out how to get it home.

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

Nil

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 would like to see this happen sooner, but undersrand that it could take time to adjust. I would say that 6 months should be maximum timeframe but ultimately just make it as soon as possible.

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

These items pollute and yet the cost of them is not truly borne by any entity. If the true cost of these items was actually passed on then they would have been phased out a long time ago. Therefore cost for phase out is cheap considering the discount already received for damage/cost they have already created

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

Not widely used, because they are not yet necessary. When they are required, they will be available (although legislation should be formed to define what parameters these are created in)

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

Cost. People need to value them and there needs to be no convenient alternatives available.

Clause

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

Notes

I'm already there

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

No comment

Clause

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

Notes

Do not limit this with shopping bags. All single use plastic should be considered, including wrapping of food and other products. All use of single use plastic should be charged for (a pollution tax).