

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

(Emily Cooper)

Reference no: 1136

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

Because I believe this is a necessary action needed to be taken to assist with the rubbish crisis- we need to use alternatives and change behaviours

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

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

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 one should, I believe it should be a blanket rule

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

None, I don't believe they should be treated differently I honk alternatives should be mandatory across the board

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

I believe it should be sooner

Clause

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

Position

two months

Notes

People are aware of alternatives and the harm plastic creates on the environment, we should act quicker

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

Due to the nature of the environmental damage and crisis caused by plastic the price is a small sacrifice as the damage caused is extreme

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 alternatives but people prioritise money and cost over these. This is why I believe it must be implemented by law

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**Clause**

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

Notes

Further education to help others understand both the damage caused by plastic and how to incorporate environmental friendly options into their day to day lives

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

Larger focus through news and more television outlets, environmental topics are not discussed enough or placed with due importance

Clause

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

Notes

I think it is a great incentive which should be introduced immediately and have a great focus on education around why this is important and positive encouragement for consumers to adjust their habits