

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

Reference no: 127

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

No

Notes

The government should focus on significant sources of plastic waste, not shopping bags. Every single product that people purchase at the supermarket comes wrapped/contained in plastic, but apparently only the bag is the issue? These are much larger sources of plastic pollution that we are not tackling. Plastic bags are being targeted because they have an emotive image of environmental harm, not because they are actually a significant source of plastic pollution.

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

No

Notes

I worry that the provided alternative will be less environmentally friendly than the plastic bags that it is replacing. Supermarkets current reusable bag offerings are not environmentally conscious alternatives.

Clause

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

Position

No

Notes

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.