

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

Sarah Grant

Reference no: 145

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

This must happen. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

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 70 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

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

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

Gives time for businesses to adjust and the public to prepare, but not so long that the environment will suffer too much mire.

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

We must protect our environment at all costs, because there's only one habitable planet and it's becoming less so every day.

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

Cardboard boxes are routinely used for fmcg stock transport, so there's a free and easy shopping transport option right there, and there are so many options for reusable bags nowadays.

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

I think it's important to encourage retailers to introduce and sell the least environmentally damaging multiuse shopping bags, rather than just the cheapest through the phase out and beyond.

Clause

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

Notes

We already refuse single use plastic bags. It wouldn't affect us, only our morale!

Clause

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

Notes

I absolutely love this, I am so proud there is finally some proposals for something that will actually make a significant environmental difference, not just endless balking because of ignorant vocal members of the public.