

Subject: FW: Submission on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags

Recipient: proposed-mandatory-phase-out-of-single-use-plastic-shopping-bags@submissions.mfe.govt.nz

Sender: wastefree@mfe.govt.nz

Date: 31/08/2018 09:44 AM

-----Original Message----- From:

Sent: Sunday, 19

August 2018 2:08 p.m. To: Wastefree Subject: Submission on the proposed mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags Dear Hon. Eugenie Sage, I support a mandatory phase-out on the sale and distribution of all single-use plastic bags. The phase-out must include a ban on false solutions, such as degradable (eg, oxo degradable, biodegradable and compostable) plastic. It must also include heavier weight singlet bags, lightweight boutique bags, and so called "emergency bags" of any thickness (microns). There should be no exemptions from a mandatory phase out of single use bags. The phase-out should be applied across all retailers, no matter the size and staff level of the business. This is the fairest and most comprehensive way to ensure the elimination of single use plastic bags from the waste stream. The phase-out should take effect as soon as possible (2-6 months). I agree that the benefits from implementing a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags exceed the costs from implementing the phase out. There is no monetary value we can place the health of our oceans, rivers and waterways and the natural services they provide humans and other species. Reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags already exist in New Zealand, such as reusable cloth bags which are already available in many retail stores. A phase-out of single-use plastic bags should be the first step in addressing plastic pollution. I also support the call by Greenpeace and others for a national strategy to tackle the global scourge of plastic pollution. I support all of what is stated here. We as the people will just have to re-educate our mind to be organised when shopping. I hope the next step will be banning all single use plastics and enforcing companies to use alternative products for packaging eg. plant based packaging, especially in the fast food industry. I grew up with the slogan, Keep NZ green, that has long gone. Easy money has come before clean NZ. Plastic, 1080, dairy farms and so much more, all areas where the government has last say in what happens...may its time to be honest and start caring, we all drink the same water and breath the same air. No matter how much money you earn does not immune you children, grandchildren to a diseased world. Every one of us here in Aotearoa need to take responsibility for the state of our country. Smoke butts, chip packets, beer bottles, the millions of time saving nappies and all the rest of the things we casually leave behind us when no one is watching. Well the world can see our laziness now. One step in the right direction. Yours sincerely, Renee Hekerangi