

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

Reference no: 175

Submitter Type:

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

Proven Compostable bags should be allowed for a small charge (5c).

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

If you're going to reduce waste do it properly. Business will just switch to 70micron bags to avoid change.

Clause

3. Are you aware of types of single-use plastic shopping bags that should be exempt from a mandatory phase out?

Position

Yes

Notes

Proven compostable bags

Clause

3a. If yes, what are they and why should they be exempt?

Notes

Proven compostable bags that biodegrade in a certain amount of time.

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

Small business should be included possibly give a cheaper rate to buy paper bags.

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

Five employees. Or independent businesses.

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

Not at least. Six months. Give exact date.

Clause

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

Position

Other (please specify)

Notes

Six months. Not 'at least'. Give defined date.

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

This should be a simple change and shouldn't cost. The change to bringing your own bag comes quickly. NZ needs to think bigger scale with single use plastics. It could be a eco tourism draw card. Bring back the 'clean, green' image.

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

Plenty of different options. Traditional methods of flax weaving could also be promoted.

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

Advertising the date of change and giving reusable bags away over first week. Having promotion for new alternative bags available a month before change.

Clause

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

Notes

Advertising the date of change and giving reusable bags away over first week. Having promotion for new alternative bags available a month before change. Have a swapping scheme, 5 single use for 1 reusable. Recycling incentive in schools. What crafts can be made by them.

Clause

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

Notes

More inventives towards business changing other single use items to recyclable or compostable materials. Promote hemp, paper etc products.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.