

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

## Reference no: 181

**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

They are useful for many purposes, particularly dealing with bio waste. What will dog owners do about the poop on my footpath? Answer: they will just LEAVE IT THERE. How will Women deal with disposal of sanitary items? They will flush them. How will elderly deal with incontinence pads? How would we cope in another earthquake? Those bags were Essential! Please think this through before you go all overboard!

### 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

Bags at checkouts. I don't mind having to pay for a bag. As long as it's Waterproof and not thin and feeble. I want all liquids which might leak to be packed in a plastic bag.

### Clause

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

### Notes

Some plastic bags are necessary for hygiene and cleanliness purposes. I don't mind what kind they are. Just give people the option.

### 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

Yes

### Notes

Bin Inn? Dairies. Liquor stores. Any place (including supermarkets) that sells things that are dirty or may leak. Milk bottles, for example, often have dirty bases. Imagine cooking oil leaking all over the boot of your car. Garden centres.

### 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

This Draconian measure needs more thought.

### Clause

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

### Position

Other (please specify)

### Notes

You should give people options and not impose this on everyone! This is supposed to be a liberal democracy .

**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****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**

They are not all single use! They have dozens of practical uses! What other options will be available? See my examples in question 1. Also think about carrying wet swimming togs, and lining rubbish bins . My council bin is collected once a fortnight. If I put rubbish and other waste in there unwrapped it would stink within days! Think about it!

**Clause**

9a. If no, what do you think is missing currently that would need to be available?

**Notes**

Waterproof plastic bags.

**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)

**Notes**

I have no idea

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

I don't want to adjust. Give people options. Make them available for those who want or need them. Make them strong enough to use more than once. I don't need many but I do need some. I will pay for them. And I will buy a shopping bag for my dry groceries.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

You are providing supermarkets and retailers with a lovely bonus. They will save the cost of plastic bags, they will make profit on the sale of shopping bags. Of course they're on board. And why are you only targeting bags? What about all the plastic in the millions of disposable nappies used in this country?

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