

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

**Reference no:** 236

**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**

These are not needed and even the biodegradable and compostable versions have an impact on environment. People have been misinformed about these. It is about re-educating.

**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**

Because of the way we are mis-educated plastic bags are plastic bags so get rid of them so the re-education can begin. Just because a bag is thicker does not mean it will be reused again as we live in a throw away society.

**Clause**

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

**Position**

Not sure

**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**

If anything these are the easiest places to make a change as people do not need a bag at all for the one or two items they may buy from a small retailer.

**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**

All companies should be treated the same

**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**

So many companies are all ready trying so the sooner it starts the better.

**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).

**Notes**

I don't think cost in this situation needs to be measured. It is the environment we are trying to protect that has not money value.

**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 reusable options out there.

**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**

voluntary incentive schemes by individual retailers

**Notes**

It will take time and it is about re-education so think both government and retailers can work together on this.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

We are already a family who stays away from single use. We have made the change and actually feel proud each time I take out my reusable plastic bag at a shop.

**Clause**

12. How can data on single-use plastic shopping bags and other single-use plastics entering the market and monitoring of reductions be improved?

**Notes**

Obviously this data will need to come from retailers.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

I just want to say it is a but time. Looking forward to bigger changes in NZ.

**You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.**