

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

Reference no: 254

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

I make and sell fabric products at a market specifically targeted to Cruise ship passengers. They have to transport their purchase on a bus, then on a tender before they reach their ship. The only thing that will keep the product dry through this is a plastic bag. The market is on even in the rain, so this makes it vital that my fabric product be sold in a plastic bag.

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

Yes - more than 50 microns and less than 70 microns in thickness?

Notes

My groceries have to be put in strong plastic bags, because I have to grab three or four of the bags by the handles in each hand and carry them upstairs to my home. I always reuse the bags as bin liners for small rubbish bins around the house, so they never end up in the ocean, because those bags go into my big rubbish bag and are taken away for proper dumping on rubbish collection day.

Clause

4a. If yes, please explain how a phase out would be likely to impact on you.

Notes

see notes in #3

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

Clause

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

Position

Other (please specify)

Notes

Never

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**Clause**

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

Notes

There isn't anything. Stop the drama, keep the plastic. Make sure people use them properly is all.

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**Clause**

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

Notes

Nothing

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

I'm sure you'll pay some bureaucrat to solve this one!

Clause

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

Notes

New Zealand is a very small part of the world. Perhaps we can lead the world in education of proper use of these bags, but stopping them being in this country will make no difference to the condition of the whole of planet earth.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.