

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

Reference no: 265

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

The term single use is misleading. Plastic shopping bags have many secondary uses and often get used of a second time or either disposed of correctly. This proposed ban will have negligible environmental impact whilst unduly inconveniencing everyday New Zealanders.

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

Other (please specify)

Notes

They should not be phased out. This is nanny state politics and environment virtue signaling.

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

Clause

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

Notes

Inconvenience my shopping experience and force me to purchase plastic bags for rubbish bin liners and other purposes that the 'single use' bags currently serve.

Clause

5. Should smaller retailers be exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags? Why / why not?

Position

Yes

Notes

Added business cost and the government should not be telling business owners how to best serve their customer needs.

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

50

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

I always forget me shopping bags. So now I dispose of reusable bags. Forcing undue cost on customers and still have rubbish going to landfill. Resulting in zero environmental impact.

Clause

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

Notes

Free plastic bags given away with each purchase.

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

Other (please specify)

Notes

Mandatory security guards at each retail outlet refusing entry to anyone not carrying a multi use bag on entry.

Clause

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

Notes

Providing free shopping bags at the counter with my purchase.

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

Don't waste taxpayers money and time on this sort of data collection.

Clause

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

Notes

This policy will have negligible environmental impact. More multi use bags will find their way into landfill, I now have to purchase single use rubbish bin liners. I don't plan on changing my shopping habits, I will still forget my bags each time.

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