

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

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## Reference no: 285

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

The majority of plastics used for food packaging and consumption need to be phased because they are causing massive environmental harm.

### 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

All plastic bags regardless of thickness

### 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

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

Exempting any retailers will confuse the public, potentially resulting in a backlash and failure, and it would just prolong the problem.

### 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

### 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

Disposal, environmental cleaning and climate change impacts are costs that should be the responsibility the private businesses that

generate cause them.

**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**

**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**

If plastic bags aren't available people will adjust. It won't be that hard. Our family has done it and wasn't hard.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Banning bags so there are no excuses. A marketing campaign demonstrating the environmental destruction caused by bags would help. Also explaining "this is the least you can do to not kill the planet" in a humorous way.

**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**

Show a visual of the reduction of plastics entering NZ. Therefore the reduction of plastics filling our landfills and killing our oceans.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Start a campaign to explain that recycling is no longer viable and that most of ends up in landfills or the ocean.