

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

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## Reference no: 346

**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

### 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?

### Notes

My favourite only fear is that retailers would find a way to make shopping bags thicker in order to get around this which would be even worse.

### 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

would like to have some kind of regulation on poly bags as well though.. would prefer retailers to have incentive to sell cotton bags rather than poly

### 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

Not sure

### Notes

definitely not. Having plastic bags available anywhere will cause confusion in consumers minds. A blanket ban will keep it consistent.

### 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

At this point scientists are warning us about how much damage plastic has caused already. Fuck the monetary.. it won't matter if our oceans are full of crap. We call ourselves clean green nz.. that should be our 1st priority not the monetary costs. Once people start getting into the habit of bringing their own bag they will form habits. Initially there will be lots of moaning and complaining ofcourse but they will get used to it once it becomes a habit.

**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**

we have become too reliant on convenient and disposable items. there aren't enough paper bags or cloth bags in circulation. Supermarkets could have a bag station where people can borrow and bring back. clothing stores can move towards paper bags. give people a 5 - 10c discount for bringing in their own 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)

**Position**

voluntary incentive schemes by individual retailers

**Notes**

they had to do it in the old days. make it a habit ofcourse. give 5 - 10c discount for byo bag. have paper bags or cardboard boxes available to store groceries in.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

more composting facilities. we have already dramatically reduced our trash but we use plastic bags mostly for rubbish. most of our trash is food scraps. at the moment we dont have any easy way to compost food scraps in our tiny shared property. would be good to have maybe a monthly food pickup or discounts on at home composting or wayyy more public composting facilities.

**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 don't know how it's currently being monitored but it would need to come directly from retailers inventory. Maybe make a hashtag if you want to know how people feel about it.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Great start and great conversation starter towards hopefully a much greater reduction in plastic usage. Would be awesome to also see styrofoam packaging banned asap.