

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

Reference no: 356

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

Not sure

Notes

I would need to know then science behind why oxo-degradable, biodegradable and compostable plastics aren't good options? If they do indeed biodegrade then why can't we replace all plastic bags with biodegradable bags? Most of the publicity seems to focus on plastic getting into the ocean and sealife eating it? How do our plastic bags get into the ocean? Don't they go into landfill and get buried underground? they don't harm anything there do they? And we need a viable alternative to plastic bags. i.e biodegradable bags or paper bags or sacks or something, we can't be expected to carry re-usable bags with us at all times and the responsibility shouldn't fall to the consumer it should be on supermarkets to provide a way to transmit their products otherwise they may aswell just pour raw rice into our outstretched hands it's ridiculous. as far as I can tell, but I'm no scientist starch-based bioplastics produced from sustainable farming methods could be almost carbon neutral so shouldn't we look at those as the alternative rather than banning them too?

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

these distinctions are meaningless to me and to most people no one knows what microns are let alone the difference between 50 and 70. just ban plastic altogether if it's so bad for the environment and use paper or something biodegradable.

Clause

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

Notes

I still don't understand why biodegradable bags have to be banned? I thought plastic bags were a problem because they don't biodegrade so surely a biodegradable bag would be fine? If someone could explain why this isnt the case that would be nice

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

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

1 year seems fairer

Clause

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

Position

one year

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).

Notes

I don't know the benefits or costs

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

starch-based bioplastics produced from sustainable farming methods could be almost carbon neutral. replace plastic bags with these. and don't make the consumer pay for it.

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)

Notes

they can't, reusable bags is a ridiculous and unfair and unrealistic idea that inconveniences shoppers to the point that I won't go grocery shopping I'll just get takeaways

Clause

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

Notes

single use starch-based bioplastics produced from sustainable farming methods

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

how about instead of putting the time money and effort into this plastic bag ban that will have no effect on ocean plastics since all the ocean plastics come from fishing, construction and rivers in india and china, we put our money and effort into developing a viable alternative that we could sell to the rest of the world and actually solve the plastics problem rather than just try make ourselves look good whilst having no impact on the problem. surely someone can develop a starch based bag that is sustainably made and biodegrades in soil and water

Clause

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

Notes

plastic bottles contribute more than plastic bags do. why not take a stand against big producers like coke and tell them if they want to sell in our country they have to change to biodegradable bottles, instead you've just shafted the new zealand public and made it hard for us to get groceries and there's no benefit to the environment.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.