

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

Reference no: 372

Submitter Type: _____

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

Yes because it does take time for the sale or distribution of single-use plastic bags to be used up and distributed.

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

less than 70 microns in thickness

Notes

Thin plastic bags have no reusable properties whereas thicker plastic could be reuse multiple times before it is dispose of, even though it may still have environmental impact.

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

I currently run the Wesley Market in Mt Roskill, Auckland and as a Market Manager I am often horrified by the number of single-use plastic bags used at the Markets. Each customers could carry about 5 bags each and many of these bags get disposed of, in the water ways or just a rubbish. It is becoming an ongoing problem that could not be managed.

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

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

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**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

There are already many alternatives to single-use shopping bags out there and there are no reasons consumer are not able to find alternatives.

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

We already have enough alternative bags and we could look at other items we could use to replace bin liners.

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

People already know the effect of single use plastic bags but they need to know how this ban is going to be effective.

Clause

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

Notes

Are we doing anything to eliminate the use of produce bags and packaging? Produce bags you can get from the supermarket is still available for anyone to use and yet they are single-use not-singlet-type plastic bags. There are also excessive packing on produce that does not need to happen. Is anyone also looking at straws? Taiwan is banning straws in 2019 and a number of start-ups have already came up with alternative options.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.