

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

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Reference no: 404

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

All single use and disposable plastic of every kind needs to be banned immediately. The only industry single use plastic should be allowed in is healthcare and even then the use should be severely minimised.

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 single use or even reusable plastic bags of any type or thickness should be banned immediately. Cotton bags and paper wrapping are perfectly suitable for use and have been used throughout recent history with no issues. Tupperware and similar are already available for instances where leaks are of concern.

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

Plastic shopping bags of all sizes and types should be banned in every retailer countrywide. Plastic packaging of any kind should also be banned.

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

Every piece of plastic is harmful to the environment, no matter where it comes from.

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

No one should be exempt.

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

It should be tomorrow. Everyone will have to learn to cope.

Clause

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

Position

Other (please specify)

Notes

Immediate, as of tomorrow morning.

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

The only cost we should consider is to our children who are destined to live on a huge rubbish dump island in a rubbish dump sea if we do not stop using all kinds of plastic immediately.

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

The practical alternatives are what our grandparents used - paper, cotton, wool, glass, wood and ceramics.

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

Stop giving any other option.

Clause

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

Notes

We have already adjusted because we do not buy plastic packaged items, refuse plastic bags, take our own containers, and have almost eliminated our landfill waste.

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

Just ban all of it - no data collection needed.

Clause

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

Notes

Do it asap cause I dont want to retire to the tip in my old age.