

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

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Reference no: 499

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 phase out should definitely include degradable plastic until there is clear guidance on how these actually degrade, and facilities to do so with compostable options (these are not domestically compostable in my experience)

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

I think that the more heavy duty plastic bags, such as countdown's alternative should also be considered not to be a long-term solution. I think these are still treated as part of our throw-away culture.

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

in my experience smaller retailers in communities are ahead of the game on this. we need clear descisions that make alternatives more important, this phase out should be for everything.

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

See above. smaller retailers tend to be more grounded in the community so can have more creative solutions. many shops in kelburn and other suburbs are already offering alternatives.

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

Let's keep it ambitious, and enforce it well.

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

our society is currently unsustainable and over-exploits resources and produces too much waste. we have placed too higher value on convenience, and the environment is carrying the cost. We need to be more mindful and creative about how we use our resources, banning single use bags is a good first step.

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

this is a relatively recent concept anyway, we coped before. there are so many more reusable bag options

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

B, C, and D utilising social norms. this will take a targetted social marketing campaign or similar

Clause

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

Notes

in the process, pressure and friendly reminders from other family members and friends and supermarket cashiers