

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

Prashanti Lovegrove

**Reference no:** 5535

**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**

Not only are these bags harmful to the environment, they are too widely distributed. We as consumers do not need a bag with every purchase.

**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 plastic bags should be phased out, it doesnt matter the thickness, all soft plastic bags should all be banned.

**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**

Smaller retailers can be big offenders of distributing plastic bags. If we as consumers carried our own reusable bags, then there would be no need for single use bags for small purchases.

**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**

Ban ALL plastic bags !!

**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**

Not sure

**Notes**

The sooner the better, but I appreciate it can take time for suppliers and consumers to get used to a new way of purchasing .

**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**

Not sure

**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**

Although I do not agree that all products need to come in a bag.

**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**

Encourage business owners to not offer any kind of bag - put the onus onto the consumer to supply his/her own (multiple use) shopping bag.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Handy tips and tricks - ie. how to fold paper rubbish bin liners,