

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

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Reference no: 5546

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

while biodegradable plastic is preferable to oil based plastic, the focus should be on developing a culture of using re-usable bags and containers. Resources and energy still go in to making biodegradable plastic

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

a blanket ban on all plastic bags and bottles. Seize the desire and necessity for bold change and do it

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

all single use plastic bags should be banned. bottles too.

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

this would send mixed messages - one law for all is best

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

if not sooner.

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 obvious benefits are less pollution, but this will also create an awareness of society's behaviour and how it affects the environment.

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

totally. Everyone in NZ has access to a re-usable bag. You can one up from the op shop for 50 cents! Its the current culture of convenience that is holding people back. Once new habits are adopted it won't be an issue as people can adapt very quickly if they have to

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

by making single use plastic bags unavailable - its very simple

Clause

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

Notes

we never use plastic bags

Clause

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

Notes

Now is the time to make thee most of the growing awareness about the problem of plastic and the public mood for change. I would like to see bold moves that are focus on the environment first and don't pander to the plastic producers or consumer convenience. A strong message needs to be sent that single use plastics are not part of our future