

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

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Reference no: 5634

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

No

Notes

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

Keep compostable bags

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

Yes

Notes

They should be allowed to use compostable bags but not "biodegradable" bags as they just break up into smaller plastic

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

100

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

No

Notes

Clause

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

Position

No

Notes**Clause**

9a. If no, what do you think is missing currently that would need to be available?

Notes

Compostable bags and paper bags that are charged for to help remind people to bring their own

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

People like rewards so a discount for using your own bag and a charge for not bringing your bag.

Clause

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

Notes

Reolacement with paper and compostable bags so if we forget our bags we don't buy another reueseable that we don't need that won't get used thus causing more environmental damage rather than less

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 won't admit to how much plastic packaging they are really using because they won't want to risk getting rid of their favourite products

Clause

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

Notes

Plastic bags aren't generally single use items, they tend to be reused at least once by most people. If you're so concerned about single use plastic then the first place that you need to look at is the supermarket. Even produce is often plastic wrapped. As well as that having a subsidy on things like reueseable nappies and reducing the amount of plastic clothing we wear would make huge differences to the environment. The way we get rid of our waste needs to change too.