

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

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Reference no: 5661

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

It's been 100% successful in Northern Territory. We're pretty similar!

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

Includes more bags in the ban.

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

But they should be eligible for monetary support to comply.

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

But the final date for compliance needs to be as soon as feasible.

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

Reckoning inconvenience as part of the cost, I believe benefits would at least balance if not exceed the costs. We need to understand that changing throwaway habits is vital. This will make it easier to establish new habits.

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

Either no plastic bags of any type are used at all, or an alternative is available, where I shop.

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

national information campaign and mobile phone app for shoppers

Notes

I choose both the last 2 positions. Some retailers already using incentives. People need convincing - via heart, not just head. Dead whales & turtles and disappearance of fish species help, sadly.

Clause

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

Notes

We choose not to use them. If any such bags come to me via other people, I re-use them till they fall to bits, then recycle - best option for me.

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

I don't know.

Clause

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

Notes

Needs to start now. Many people are already convinced. Ask them to encourage friends. Retailers are a vital part of the chain. Big supermarkets are helping. Lower socio-economic areas hardest to reach??? Small retailers must be supported.