

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

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Reference no: 5662

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

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

Yes

Notes

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

No

Notes

Clause

7a. If no, what do you think would be a more appropriate phase-out period?

Position

Other (please specify)

Notes

Never

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

Yes

Notes**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**Clause**

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

Notes

This is yet another half baked Green Part knee jerk. Pure tokenism. First, a walk around any supermarket will tell you that the check out plastic bags are an insignificant part of the plastic packaging used. Secondly, for a huge number of people, possibly most (has any research been done on this?) supermarket check out bags are NOT single use (unlike virtually all the other plastic packaging in supermarkets and other retailers). In our case they have always been used for either lining rubbish bins or as dog poop bags. They are never single use unless contaminated by leaky groceries. Given our local supermarkets no bag policy we now find ourselves having to buy both plastic bin liners and plastic dog poop bags. A great win for the environment! If you are going to do something about reducing the amount of packaging going to waste. Don't just pick an easy target without any real consideration of whether it will achieve anything.