

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

Catherine Ellis

Reference no: 5733

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

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

The change in consumer behaviour to use reusable bags should be fully embraced by all.

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

It would be good to do sooner, but it will have an impact of bag producers, and other business that provide marketing services, eg print business names. They will need time to transition and I guess there will be jobs lost. Has to happen thoug.

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

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

There are multiple reusable options readily available people just have to change their behaviours.

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

Campaign yes, mobile app, why??

Clause

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

Notes

Have already adjusted. We need more options for getting rid of mucky waste (food waste in particular) so that people don't feel the need to line their bin. That is the only reason why the shopping bags were handy. Make it easy to get rid of compostable waste.

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

Not sure about the shopping bags. Products that are wrapped in plastic unnecessarily could be categorised so that these could be targeted for subsequent reductions/bans. Examples are fruit stickers, vegetables (cucumbers) but also magazines, leaflets (they are wrapped so they can be addressed), toys, a whole range of stuff where health and safety is not an issue.