

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

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## Reference no: 5742

**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

Full ban on any "single use style" of shopping bags.

### 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

The thickness should not apply. Encourage a full ban on "shopping bags", because habits need to change to a reusable culture. In supermarkets, retail stores and other...

### 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

For how I am currently living there are no examples where a reusable bag is not sufficient.

### 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

In a reusable culture the costs of and or revised implications are not necessarily the responsibility of the retailers large or small. Smart simple solutions are available for the community to jointly use.

### 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

We understand that a massive re-educating of the public will need to happen.

### 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 environment is worth it.

**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**

Yes, sustainable reusable natural tread ie: cotton bags are an immediate switch for all bag use. From produce, to bulk bins, to larger carry bags..etc

**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**

Both options, along with big emphasis on our own individual incentives for improvement and regeneration of the environment.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

A national understanding of why we are all working towards this change. Having the lazy convenience options removed from our lives. If there is still going to be some sort of single use plastic bag ie: 70 microns thick, there should be gross and factual imagery of the real life effects of plastics in the environment displayed on these items. Such as photos of wildlife with stomachs filled with plastic. Much like the current cigarette smoking campaign warnings on packaging highlighting health effects. Better mana and encouragement for those doing their bit.

**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**

If the focus shifts towards reducing all single use plastics and or items, for a more reusable culture. Individuals rubbish could be monitored more. That is a reduction in waste going out the gate to landfill will be noticed (monitored) by local governments.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

That this needs to be just the beginning of looking at the use of all plastics in our current environment. Much more work needs to be done towards reducing and switching many of our waste streams, towards sustainable reusable options. I fully support and would submit to any initiatives for a better environment.