

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

Jo Garrett, **Joanne Eileen Garrett**

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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

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 50 microns in thickness

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

I don't think there should be exemptions.

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

It has to be a universal ban otherwise it doesn't make sense in people's minds plus in order to get people off the plastic bag addiction you need to make it a total ban.

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

No exemptions should apply.

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

two months

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

Yes

Notes

Absolutely. This is the first step towards looking at all plastic single usage & how we can reduce on a much wider scale many household & retail single-use items....esp relating to food.....straws, coffee cup lids, clothing store bag, plastic containers for cakes etc, toothbrushes, shampoo...the list goes on & on . Our oceans are in crisis & the costs to our health & environment are unquantifiable. Regardless of cost we must reduce plastic use. Future generations will benefit so cost is irrelevant. People are already stocking up on plastic bags as if to suggest their lives won't be the same without bags to line their rubbish bin. But in a generation we have become over reliant on plastic & the best way to stop is to just cut it out short swift & quickly.

Clause

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

Notes

Already doing it which so many are. We have been using material shopping bags for months & bought eco-biodegradable bin liners which we reuse . I would like to see WCC come up with alternatives to the yellow weekly rubbish bags too.

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

When supermarkets put out new products, a database of packaging types of new products being released might be good.

Clause

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

Notes

The sooner the better. I was in Ireland when they stopped them & it was just done overnight & people adjusted really quickly. Let's get on with this & make plastic reduction a priority.