

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

Reference no: 5751

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 is no longer acceptable to use single use plastic bags when we are so aware of the problems they cause. People with no awareness will keep using them without a thought although there are alternatives readily available.

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

There are many other alternatives to plastic of any sort i.e. jute, cloth.

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

Why should they? If all retailers are banned then its easier for people to remember to take their own bags automatically.

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

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

Something has to change and this is a start. I dont know about the monetary side but the benefit to the environment outweighs this.

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

Most supermarkets sell cheap reusable bags and they can be used for all sorts of shopping.

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

I think shops could offer a financial incentive to reuse bags. Maybe 10 cent discount if you bring a bag. If you buy them you'll use them. Also, after awhile it becomes second nature. I have used jute bags for groceries about four years. Never forget to take them into stores. Plus i have cotton one for other shops. It soon became a habit.

Clause

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

Notes

We dont use them now.

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

Dont know.

Clause

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

Notes

People need to change their habits and unfortunately for the majority of people it has to be enforced on them. It is only the start as we need to get rid of the thin plastic bags supermarkets have for customers to put fruit and vegetables in. There are alternatives for those too. Plastic is now an environmental nightmare and in this day and age its not good enough not to clean our act up.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.