

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

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Reference no: 5777

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 70 microns in thickness

Notes

Hopefully this will lead to the manufacture of plastic bags stopping.

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

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 retailer should be exempted

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

Have refused such bags for years. Struggling to feel safe about disposing of the remaining plastic in my own environment despite recycling opportunities.

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

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

Mobile phone app ? How would that help? Heaps of community volunteers have already mobilised to make cloth reusable bags. The nylon fold into a pouch bags I've used for more than 10 years are clearly durable..being plastic themselves and wash easily. Manufacture of bulky plastic reusable bespoke supermarket bags with only an expected few years lifespan are not the answer.

Clause

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

Notes

Have already made this change. Buy only loose fruit and veg..into basket on trolley and straight in to own bags at checkout. Checkout people support this willingly.

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

Don't know how this is done...mostly imported? Collect data at point of entry. Close down water bottling plants as soon as possible. Where water does need to go to arid areas in the world, send it in bulk to be dispensed into reusable containers. A plastic bottle return depository scheme such as we used to have for glass bottles would provide data for monitoring.

Clause

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

Notes

Thank you ! Education education, publicity, posters, ... Hopefully this is just a start.