

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

Kate White

Reference no: 5889

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

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

Should be no exemptions.

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

as soon as possible - 6 months seems reasonable.

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

Not sure

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

Clause

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

Notes

Kete-making wananga so we can use what we already have (flax) to create alternatives to plastic bags.

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

Retailers to track. Have targets to reduce.

Clause

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

Notes

Retailers should be provided information on: • The most environmentally friendly alternatives to single use plastic bags. • The need to avoid bags made from composite materials e.g. jute bags lined with plastic; paper bags with rope handles. • The need to have certification for any reusable compostable bags • The importance of providing disposal information (eg recycling, composting, landfill) on the bag for end-of-use. We urge the government to help retailers to breakdown the regulatory barriers around food supply without reliance on single use plastics and without the burden of risk being all on the retailer.