

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

Reference no: 5898

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

Single use plastic bags are totally unnecessary, and have a horrible impact on the environment. Banning plastic bags is an easy first step for consumers to move towards changing behaviour around single use plastic. Compostable and degradable bags give the illusion that they are better for the environment - and are therefore misleading for consumers.

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

Anything less than 70 microns will still be considered single-use by consumers.

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

There should be no 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

Smaller retailers (eg dairies) generally sell fewer items per customer, so there is even less reason to put one or two items in a plastic bag. We need to remove the option of single-use plastic bags entirely.

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

Should be as soon as possible.

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**

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

Notes

Educational campaigns around alternatives for dog-poo bags, and kitchen bin liners. And around wider environmental improvements like composting etc

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.