

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

Reference no: 596

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

I agree with the phase-out as plastic bags are destroying not only the NZ environment and the creatures within it, but the environment worldwide. There are a number of reasonable, practical and easily available alternatives which cause far less harm.

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

Other (please specify)

Notes

The phase-out should ban all single-use plastic bags in order to prevent loopholes being created and to more effectively encourage all New Zealanders to use reusable bags or other alternatives. Allowing single-use bags of a certain thickness complicates the understanding and implementation of the ban.

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

Yes

Notes

Exemptions should not be made for smaller retailers as any contribution of single-use plastic bags contradicts a ban on such items.

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

Clause

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

Notes

Yes, supermarkets and other food retailers offer reusable fabric bags, paper bags are available from many stores and numerous stores and brands offer tote bags as gifts with purchase or 'freebies' meaning that most people have bags they would be able to use as a reasonable and practicable alternative to plastic bags

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

voluntary incentive schemes by individual retailers

Notes

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.