

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

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Reference no: 6067

Submitter Type:

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

Because they end up in our oceans and don't biodegrade in landfill

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

Could you not phase them out with paper bags?

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

5. Should smaller retailers be exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags? Why / why not?

Position

No

Notes

No one is more important than our oceans

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

It will take a whole lot more money to clean up our oceans than to stop using plastic and the environmental cost is priceless

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

Yes reusable bags but we need a better system that caters for lower socioeconomic families such as a boomerang bag situation or maybe offer free reusable bags for a limited time after the phase out

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

This needs to come from policy and be enforced not left up to the prerogative of individuals

Clause

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

Notes

Alternatives for lining rubbish bins. We use minimal plastic as is

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

Have a number or email citizens can call to report data

Clause

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

Notes

We have a fading image of a clean green and pure New Zealand, the change away from plastic needs to be marketed as playing into increasing our green national image to get more people on board with the reasoning behind it