

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

Pamela Gill, **Pamela Gill**

Reference no: 6152

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

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

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

Our environment needs our support now. I am sick of picking up plastic bags from our waterways. We need a sea change of no single-use plastic bag from every direction, including support from regulation.

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

Although, there is a lot of education and support required to achieve this changeover. From front of the line signage at point of sale, have you remembered your bag? To supporting alternative reusable 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

national information campaign and mobile phone app for shoppers

Notes

Refers back to my previous answer. On iphones, there is already a locator app, that could be set to alarm when you're in the vicinity of a supermarket. Resource and empower communities to spread the message on why this is important to make this change and alternative behaviours they will need to employ to be successful.

Clause

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

Notes

I'm almost there. The trick for me is remembering to put the bags in the car.

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

That's a difficult one. For me, I work on stream projects and am often cleaning up plastic bags. I'm certain to notice a difference! Perhaps a reporting line/email address for reporting single-use plastic (could be your nightmare) but we have to do something, it's beyond the joke now.

Clause

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

Notes

Please phase them out!