

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

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Reference no: 6160

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

I support no single use plastic bags being used. We need to change our behaviour and attitudes about how we become sustainable. Support people to stop using single use bags.

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

We all need to take responsible action and stop the use of plastic. Small retailers need to be supported and given other options by government investment into alternatives for all retailers.

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

However it needs to happen within that timeframe. Not get lost in giving people too much time. It is necessary to stop the damage from continuing to use plastic.

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's about looking at the bigger picture. Plastic is not sustainable. The cost to our environment is higher than any cost to have alternative options. Recently on holiday in Taipei there was plastic in the sea. It was disgusting to have first hand experience of the effects of plastic on our environment. That will be New Zealand soon if we don't make changes now.

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

Already there is many alternative options. Community groups are making sustainable bags from compost able materials. Investing in companies willing to producing compostable bags and other packaging is an important action which needs to be supported for long term changes. Not just for single use plastic bags yet for all alternative packaging. It starts with refusing to provide single use plastic bags. Yet needs to continue to other forms of packaging

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

Other (please specify)

Notes

Do not have any other option. Ban single use plastic bags. Find businesses to provide them. Invest in local community projects to create diverse and affordable multi purpose bags.

Clause

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

Notes

We have already stopped using them. It was simple. Refuse them in everyday life and always have them with us. We also have stainless steel straws and our own takeaway cups and Reusable cutlery.

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

Needs to be government lead. Using policies in place. Start by minister for the environment setting up a system which is funded for the above specific data collection.