

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

**Reference no:** 6200

**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**

No

**Notes**

At this stage the alternatives are more harmful to the environment. These shopping bags (not ...degradable or compostable) are 100% recyclable. The problem is not with the product, just how we are handling it. To say NZ is a small contributor to the plastic in our oceans is an understatement. Over 90% of this comes from 10 rivers around the world, none are in NZ. I suggest Green Peace go and name and shame or train the countries that having such a problem disposing of their waist.

**Clause**

3. Are you aware of types of single-use plastic shopping bags that should be exempt from a mandatory phase out?

**Position**

Not sure

**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**

**Clause**

6. If smaller retailers are exempted from a mandatory phase out of single-use plastic shopping bags and they are defined by their number of full-time equivalent employees, what should that number be?

**Notes**

4500

**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**

Other (please specify)

**Notes**

When a viable alternative is in place. If such a product existed we would not have to phase-out ban the use of our current bags. The product would be cheaper, with less of a negative impact on our environment and economy. See the big picture not just one aspect of it. Since the real issue for NZ is a better use of the waist than putting in our landfills, work it out. Other countries around the world

have better alternatives that should be looked at.

**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**

No

**Notes**

My thought is anyone in good conscious agreeing with this statement is suffering from tunnel vision. They cannot be considering all alternatives and looking at the cost our environment or our economy. Higher grocery bills, more hard working Kiwis join the unemployment que as the impact from this type of action starts to erode the local flexible packaging industry. In this case most of the singlet bags are imported but the negative spin on plastic packaging is huge.

**Clause**

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

**Position**

No

**Notes**

**Clause**

9a. If no, what do you think is missing currently that would need to be available?

**Notes**

A way to effectively depose of any waist product is the key. This highlights the problems with current alternatives, aside from the added cost to the consumer, we still can't just place it all in landfills, they still want do what they claim to do.

**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**

Good luck with that. For an example; putting meat that could leak in a bag that may next time be used for vegies. Let's put more stain on our health department. More theft has been reported from overseas supermarkets that have been forced to stop using singlet bags (single use shopping bags), as the reusable bags are used to hide product when going through the checkouts. Their loss of profit gets passed on to the consumers ...

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Having a better product than is currently offered. I don't believe what we currently have is a move forward or sideways... a big step back.

**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**

Be more accurate in all aspects of the cost to the environment and consumer. Also stop the generic clams that are being made by current alternatives. Have you put a compostable bag into your home compost bin and then a year later used the compost on your garden?

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

It is a bit tiring having the noisy few influencing governing policy to such a large extent, "two heads or better than one" small groups influencing nations can be a bad thing. It is a shame so many of us are so apathetic. Yes there is a problem with plastics being dumped in our oceans. Yes there is a problem with putting 100% recyclable products into landfills. Both of these issues can be addressed both on a local scale and an international scale and should be. Whatever is decided upon should take into consideration the whole picture, not just a couple of aspects. If at this stage in development plastics are the best thing, then work out the best way to deal with them. Teach people the importance of waste management, domestically and internationally. Waste management should be more than just a buzz work or catchy name for those managing the dump.

**You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.**

Supporting documents from your Submission

Oceans.pdf

Uploaded on 09/14/2018 at 01:18PM

Replacments....pdf

Uploaded on 09/14/2018 at 01:18PM