

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

**Reference no:** 6202

**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**

In the world of consumerism today, we forgot what is really important. We make so much and are only concerned with how much money we'll get for it. Not that how long will this product exist, how will it be used after it's life finishes, how will it be returned back in the circular system. Our economics are very linear, we produce goods but we don't think where they'll end up. We need to take a step back and realise how can we make more sustainable product with longer lifetime but also how will we reprocess that product back into the production system. The problem is not plastic, the problem is our thirst for consumerism. We don't need single use bags period. We can carry our own bags with us. We don't need straws (however if people complain there are alternatives) we don't need closets of clothes and piles of shoes. We don't need all the shit that advertisement tells us that we do. People need to learn to live more simply, more minimalistic. Our world view has to change in order for that to happen. We need to take ourselves off the pedestal of the "most important" animal on this planet and realise that we are destroying this planet and take responsibility. Humanist way of thinking has been poisoning our way of thinking for a long time, and now on the edge of the sword it's time for change. It's time for action. It's time to step back and acknowledge any other sentient life, animals, fish, plants as equal to us and as something that we need to respect and protect.

**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**

Single use plastic bags are not a necessity we do not need them

**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**

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**

0

**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**

Not sure

**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**

Not sure

**Notes**

There's in nothing more important than saving the environment, especially right now. So no matter how much money we might lose, it would still be worth it.

**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**

We already use reusable bags in the supermarkets. We can use paper bags (bamboo is a cheap way of producing paper, cardboard etc) the Maori already had a way of making organic bags 100s of years ago, nothing better than returning to the roots. We can use all the plastic found in nature to make reusable bags with. there's is so many options

**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**

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

It's much easier to say no to something, if it's simply not there. My partner always uses single use plastic bags because he keeps forgetting to bring a bag with him, if SUPB wouldn't be so easily available people would use them less. Retailers providing schemes to encourage people to bring their own bags and grtting a small discount to indulge the behaviour

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