

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

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Reference no: 6278

Submitter Type: Business / Industry

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

I agree with mandatory phase out of the sale and distribution of single use plastic shopping bags, including all plastic derived bags up to and over 70 microns.

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

I agree with mandatory phase out of the sale and distribution of single use plastic shopping bags, including all plastic derived bags up to and over 70 microns.

Clause

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

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

3a. If yes, what are they and why should they be exempt?

Notes

proper home and commercial compostable bags should be exempt as we will need to as a nation implement a circular waste system where commercial composting becomes part of the norm.

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

it has to be everyone or it wont make a difference.

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

i do not believe this should happen.

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

it should happen sooner.

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

The environmental benefits should never be weighted in terms of money or profit.

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

Upcycled textiles turned into cloth bag libraries are a great alternative. we are small enough to make this happen.

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

I assume you are referring to the current bags in supermarkets which have environmental impacts in using and disposing of as well as producing, I do not encourage people to use these bags I encourage people to reuse their own cloth/jute/hemp bags

Clause

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

Notes

I already have, I haven't used a plastic bag in years in fact every day I find one assimilating to its new natural environs when I am out walking, I use it to collect the trash i pick up daily.

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

n/a

Clause

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

Notes

This proposed mandatory phase out does not go far enough, it should include all plastic bags made from plastic including those up to and over 70 microns.