

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

Julia Louise Kingham

Reference no: 634

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

Yes, we need a complete ban on plastic in single-use form and must go further than just plastic bags, we need to phase out ALL single-use plastic and wooden chopsticks.

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

There should not be any exemption.

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

Having witnessed in Taiwan the implementation of the phasing out of plastic, people adapt and they get used to the change very quickly so the consumer will not notice if the business is big/small they will adapt by bringing their own bag or learn quickly to do so.

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

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

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

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

voluntary incentive schemes by individual retailers

Notes

Clause

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

Notes

This has already been implemented by all members of my family, so I see no need for people to be helped along in this process, they will adjust, if this is new to them, they will adapt and learn.

Clause

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

Notes

I think this is fantastic and we should lead the way by moving quickly on banning all single-use items, straws, takeaway cups, and another focus should be on wooden chopsticks. We are a small nation who can quickly adapt and show bigger nations it can be done and that it will improve people's lives. Thank you for implementing this action, it should be the small step to many changes ahead! Make it a strong change and don't allow any leeway or the public will be confused, it is best to just ban all plastic bags from all stores.