

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

**Reference no:** 636

**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**

Its important so called biodegradable and compostable bags are also banned as they are simply breaking down into plastic particles that then get into the foodchain and eco system which is just as bad as whole plastic bags killing wildlife

**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**

Should just be all plastic bads and people can find alternatives to rubbish bags such as composting and or rubbish going directly in bins and then hosing them out to kepp them clean. Could also use plant based bags eg starch bags

**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**

Why cant they either just provide paper bags/starch bags or customers just get used to carrying around light fold away tote bags that are really no heavier than carrying around a plastic bag. Maybe the government could send out one of these to every household to get them started.

**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**

1

**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?

**Notes**

Probably reasonabl however i know many nzers are awwre of the issue with plastics and already use resuable bags and try to avoud plastic so maybe it could be sooner

**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**

Of course the benefits out way the costs. its future thinking and working towards long term solutions. I think it should be extended beyond just plastic bags

**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**

The existinc fabric bags that can be obtained at supermarkets, light weight tot bags that fold down very small and can be put in a pocket or handbag, string bags, paper bags. If theres no option for plastic nags ppl will adapt and get into a habit of carrying a reusable bag.

**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**

National campaing and individual schemes

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Provide compost collection (not everyone has a garden) , make all types of reusable bags cheap enough for anyone to buy or provide them free to start ppl off. Have alternatives like starch or plant based bags, invest in development of plant based bags, invest in less plastic packaging of food and goods in general.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

This initiative should go beyong plastic shopping bags to things like take away containers, food packaging, plastic utensils and tableware, straws, qtips, polystrene and investment into recycling in nz and non plastic alternatives

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