

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

Reference no: 684

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

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

Ban all, not 100% sure on the technical points in this question.

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

It is everyone's responsibility to reduce plastic bag usage.

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

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

Major supermarkets like countdown have always offered well priced reusable bags, others offer boxes which are a good alternative. I would say that takeaway food businesses are the worst, subsidies on paper bags could be an option. Community led programs on making bags in schools would be a great way to get reusable bags in to more homes.

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

Both options actually. I think it needs to be campaigned nationally and i think individual retailers need to encourage the use of reusable bags. They could offer a borrow a bag concept, or well priced reusable bags. If retailers stop offering bags, won't the consumer just adapt?

Clause

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

Notes

My family is already fairly adjusted. However, i think awareness and action from the retailers would help more families.

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

I have never seen this kind of data in a public/easy to access location. It should be included in any nationwide campaign.

Clause

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

Notes

School led education! Major retailers, like supermarkets or shopping malls, could have campaign events outside their shops to raise awareness. Have pictures of oceans and animals affected by bags and get people talking about the affects when their at the store where it is most prevalent. We lived thousands and thousands of years without plastic bags, we can do it again!

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.