

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

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Reference no: 692

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 to stop using single use plastics! Please do not only ban shopping bags but also ban single use cutlery and take away packaging and bread packets and other single use plastics, which are wrecking the environment!

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

Please ban ALL plastic bags! In Australia they have banned the thin bags but it just means that everyone gets the much thicker shopping bags and still only use them once. The thicker bags are even more of an issue to recycle and are causing more issues when they are released into the environment.

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

All single use plastics should be banned (apart from those required for medical uses)

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

ALL of NZ needs to be plastic bag free!

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

NO plastic bags should be used!

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

I desperately want single use plastics banned right now but I realise that change requires education and time to instigate, so 6 months seems reasonable.

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

There are HUGE benefits to banning all single use plastics!!!!!!

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

Absolutely! There are loads of people/organisations/NGOs/business re-educating and providing really great alternatives!

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

All plastic bags should be banned! Both single use AND multiple use plastic bags! the only alternatives that should be encouraged should be those made of natural fibers, e.g. flax baskets, cotton bags, hemp bags, etc

Clause

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

Notes

We already use cotton shopping bags or I just carry things out in my arms if I have forgotten my bags

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

Not sure

Clause

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

Notes

ALL single use plastics (water bottles, coffee cups, plastic cutlery, shopping bags etc) AND multiple use thicker plastic shopping bags should be banned as the harm to the environment is HUGE!