

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

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## Reference no: 797

**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

No

### Notes

This ban will serve only as a tick - yes we done it! The same like with separate cycle lanes... Great idea, but without having any deeper thought on it, and how to achieve the objective. This ban reminds me mid-age which-hunt! We have a victim, so let's burn it. Also why you're banning those biodegradable "plastic" shopping bags made of plants provided in some veggies shops? The ban of single-use plastic shopping bags won't solve anything, just that people won't have anywhere to put their shopping or would need to spent lot's of money for the "eco" shopping bags which would cheer up shops and producers! And yet, the shops shall be full of single-use plastic bags which people suppose to fill up with fruits, pastry, nuts, seeds, etc. or are already pre-filled with breads, potatoes, onions, etc. and other goodies from the producers. Isn't that silly? But our government could then proudly say "Look, how we are green!". So how this ban could help? You're effectively punishing the consumers. Bans will never solve anything! Encourage people, consumers as well as producers not to be a consume society, e.g.: Make tax incentives for shops, producers and vendors to use eco friendly packaging, encourage them to replace all plastic bags with other solutions known at the beginning of industrial age - simple paper bags and wraps:-o Motivate people to recycle buy giving them money back if they return bottles (plastic or glass ones), including the lids, the same for any kind of plastic packaging, cans, etc. (sure supermarkets can charge refund fee on top of it, or you can include the reward for people who recycle in some eco-recycle friendly tax, and so on.

### 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?

### Notes

As I said, shopping bags is just one kind of bag from the hundreds otherwise freely available. So, I think it is kinda the same silly joke like to pee in one side of the swimming pool and hoping it won't spread further. I think this ban is total scam and fraud.

### 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

some veggie shops provide a shopping bags made from plants and they claim to be biodegradable. Also, I'd be careful to call them "single-use" as we reuse those single-use several times and at their life end we use them as a lining into our rubbish bins, so we're not buying rubbish bins bags.

### Clause

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

### Notes

Because they are biodegradable and not true "plastic"

### 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?

### Notes

Why they should be? But the right question is: Why you want to ban only on kind of plastic bags?! I want, when I enter a shop, see only natural (biodegradable) bags for packing my fruit, pastry, etc. I wish I won't see any plastic bags and bread wrapped in disgusting

plastic bags, I don't want meat be be wrap in the plastic food foil wrap, fish put into the plastic bags or food laid an a plastic or polystyrene trays, etc.

**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**

I totally disagree with this ban. Ban for plastic bags available for free in exchange to buy the same plastic bag into my rubbish bin and put my smelly undies into it.

**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**

No

**Notes**

I cannot see any benefit from the ban other than someone will have a tick. There shall be no difference on the environment if the ban is relevant to just those shopping plastic bags available at checkout. Ban all plastic bags, and then you may see a difference. But all bans are evil. Encourage people in monetary not to use the plastic at all on both sides. Especially the producers. But this is a global and fundamental change this consumption oriented society would need to undergo. It needs to start from the education of the youngest. The quality of food which is available too them and how is it serve. More many it's just normal to eat junk food, go to Mc Donalds several times a week. If people cannot see this is the hell, then no ban would ever help. How someone can go to the fast food and leave behind them so much rubbish?! Do you think those people do care about environment in which do they live if they don't care about their health and lifestyle? People are on cokes, Red Bulls, etc. Those people would hardly ever care about sustainable life style. Until people would crave to eat healthy food and and will feel sorry if they wasting food and anything else, no ban would ever help.

**Clause**

9. Do you think that reasonably practicable alternatives to single-use plastic shopping bags exist in New Zealand? Why / why not?

**Position**

Not sure

**Notes**

In my understanding there are eco-friendly biodegradable plastic shopping bags made out of plants. It should be that practical alternative, but true is, I've never explored if the bags are truly eco-friendly. Alternative is to educate and motivate people, especially producers to be more environment friendly and let those who recycle and don't waste benefit too.

**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**

sure some incentive schemes might help. Also the financial aspect of those bags can help with it. But the best would be educate people what everything they can do with the reusable bag, e.g. as the last option for use is to use them as a rubbish bin bags. Cool designs.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

On one hand the single use plastic bags are cheep to produce, the alternative multi use eco bags are dear as... and if people forget them home or just do unplanned shopping it would be hard to buy a new reusable one. I can imagine that over the time a family would accumulate a heaps of those multi-use eco bags and would spend a fortune on them. I think if there was a chance to return them at a local shop just even for 90% of refundable deposit (purchase cost), that would be very strong factor for everyone to gave up on the single-use plastic shopping bag, but still you'll have hundreds and thousands of other kinds of single use plastic bags available in a store to put your stuff in.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

Instead of banning motivate! - Venders by tax incentives and advantages - Consumers by refundable deposits Easy as