

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

Reference no: 874

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

All thicknesses should be phased out as they all pose the same risk to 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

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 should be mandatory for everyone - otherwise it defeats the purpose.

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

Not sure

Notes

I guess companies need time to seek alternatives and to use up stocks of plastic bags, see out any purchase commitments they have made etc.

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

It is the start of reducing our impact on the environment - without a healthy environment there would be no humans therefore no cost is too much.

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

Need to ensure the alternatives aren't just a thicker type of plastic - they should be made from cotton/hemp/other natural fibres.

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

If the bags are well made/made from natural fibres, they will be moderately expensive therefore people will want to get lots of use from them.

Clause

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

Notes

Get rid of single use plastic bags! We would adjust pretty quickly - already use reusable 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

Need to inspect companies (large scale investigations of all products on NZ supermarket shelves) and look at how they package their products as this is where there is huge amounts of unnecessary packaging.

Clause

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

Notes

Probably need to look at including other types of thin plastic bags such as nappy bags, bin bags, produce bags, dog poo bags (although I don't know what the alternative is for those!)

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.