

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

NA (Lou Baxter)

## Reference no: 899

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

However it will be necessary to make sure alternatives are not bad either (tax relief for hessian or natural fibres bags?).

### 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

some types of replacement plastic bags are as bad as the single-use, if not worse! Methods of changing bag material altogether should be used if marine life is to be saved.

### 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

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

Perhaps a slightly longer transition period for retail outlets with less than 5 staff present at any one time?

### 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

shorter might be better

### 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

If plastic bags are replaced by bio-degradable material (and remember plastic breaks up not down) then marine life would be better protected. To prevent dead oceans is PRICELESS.

### 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**

**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**

make biodegradable materials like cotton or hessian (or string bags) cheaper through subsidies. Increase tax on all plastic bags with increased revenue going towards clean-up activities.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

the thought of our children living (or trying to live) on a dead planet

**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