

Matthew Wiessing

Submitter Type:

Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Position:

Clause

1. Do you agree with the Government's proposal to prohibit the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing microbeads (eg, body scrubs, facial cleaners, toothpastes) to reduce their impacts on New Zealand's environment and human health? Why/why not?

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

2. What are your views on the Government narrowing or widening the definition of the scope of personal care products containing microbeads to be prohibited from manufacture and sale in New Zealand?

Notes

The scope should not be limited to personal care products, because there may be unanticipated future uses for microbeads. However, I think it is reasonable to allow exemptions for essential or critical use, so long as the net annual discharge into then environment would be minimal.

Clause

3. Do you currently manufacture, sell or use any personal care products containing microbeads? Please specify.

Position

No

Notes

Clause

4. Do you currently manufacture, sell or use any personal care products containing microbeads for medically prescribed uses or purposes? Please specify.

Position

No

Notes

Clause

5. Do you currently import any personal care products containing microbeads into New Zealand, either for sale or personal use? Please specify.

Position

No

Notes

But there is a large and growing group of people that do import personal care products from websites like strawberry.net and amazon.com, and I believe that there is a risk that banning the products in NZ may just alter peoples behavior to start importing more of them, hence it would be prudent to also ban the importation of products containing microbeads.

Clause

6. Are you aware of any personal care products containing microbeads for any purpose that could be considered an essential or critical use?

Notes

No

Clause

7. Do you currently manufacture, sell or use any alternatives to personal care products containing microbeads (or components therein), which are designed and used for the same purpose(s)? Please specify.

Position

No

Notes

Clause

10. What would be the impact on you or your business if personal care products containing microbeads were prohibited for manufacture and sale in New Zealand and the alternatives were not reasonably practicable, readily available, or similarly priced?

Notes

None

Clause

11. Do you support the Government's approach to administration and enforcement of the proposed regulations under the Waste Minimisation Act? Why/why not?

Position

Yes

Notes

Clause

12. Are there any other considerations for administration and enforcement of the proposed regulations that have not been outlined in the Administration and enforcement section in the Managing microbeads in personal care products consultation document?

Notes

I also think microbeads should be added to the list of hazardous substances (Environmental hazards >> toxic in the aquatic environment) with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), due to the microbeads behavior of absorbing and concentrating persistent organic pollutants such as PCB's & DDE.

Clause

16. Do you have any further comments you wish to make about the Government's proposal?

Notes

Thank you.

The submitter have elected to withhold their personal details from publication.