

Sam Thomas

Submitter Type:

Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Position: Support

Overall Notes:

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

I think that it is necessary to ban microbeads as there are many natural alternatives which can be used as a replacement for plastic. Also microbeads are too small for filters in storm water systems and treatment works to capture and prevent them from entering the ocean. There is too much plastic pollution as it is without microbeads which can be mistaken for fish eggs and eaten by young fish which then get passed up the food chain as they are eaten in turn. Eventually we can eat the microbeads after eating the fish which ate them.

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

I think that all microbeads should be banned unless they are essential for a health product.

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

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

None that I am aware of.

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

9. Is there any reason why the alternatives would not be reasonably practicable, readily available, or similarly priced for personal, business or other uses? If so, would you consider operating against the policy intent and importing personal care products containing microbeads from overseas?

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

I don't use or sell any products with microbeads so no problems for me.

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

Mircobeads are a waste product of consumer use and so should be treated under the waste minimization act.

Clause

13. What are your views on the Government's proposed timeframe for entry-into-force of the regulations under the Waste Minimisation Act to prohibit the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing microbeads?

Notes

I think the ban should come into effect faster as the microbeads are not a necessary thing to have have so they could be banned faster.

Clause

14. Are there any issues about the proposed timeframe for entry-into-force of the regulations that the Government should consider?

Notes

The speed of implementation.

Clause

15. Are there any ways the Government could help industry or consumers transition away from personal care products containing microbeads ahead of the regulations' entry-into-force?

Notes

I don't think this is an issue.