



National Environment
and Planning Agency

Single Use Plastic Ban

Making an Application for an Exemption

Application

An application for an exemption is comprised of:

1. a completed Application Letter (template - Appendix 1)
2. a completed Application Form (Appendix 1b)
3. other accompanying documentation as may be requested - for example; specifications of the plastic, proposed phased out plan; and
4. a non-refundable prescribed application fee of \$5000 and payable upon submission of the Application

On completion, the application package is taken to the Applications Secretariat Branch, National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA), 10 Caledonia Avenue, Kingston 5, Jamaica.

Incomplete Forms will **NOT** be accepted.

In arriving at its decision for granting an exemption, NEPA may consider the comments, if any, of external agencies specifically, the Bureau of Standards of Jamaica (BSJ). The decision whether to grant an exemption, or the terms and conditions to be attached to the granting of an exemption, may be guided by the application of specific standards in use from time to time.

Where an application for an exemption is refused, the NEPA will notify the applicant of the reasons for the decision and of his right of appeal to the Minister. The applicant may also appeal to the Minister where he/she objects to the terms and conditions attached to the exemption.

Categories for exemptions:

- Single use plastic shopping bags made of polyethylene or polypropylene with dimensions at or less than 24" X 24" and of thickness greater than 1.2mils and at or less than 2.5 mils (commonly branded for use by retailers) until 1 January 2021.
- Importation and manufacture of polystyrene foam for the packaging of food items such as raw meats and vegetables.
- Importation and or manufacture of plastic straws for medical and or for other special needs purposes.

Review Time

The review and decision-making period for applications will be no longer than 10 working days except in instances where the application is referred for comments from an external Ministry Department or Agency.

Fee

Application for exemption - \$5000.00 (non-refundable and payable upon submission of the Application)

Validity of the Exemption

The validity of the exemption is specific to each batch of plastic for which the application is made.

Collection of the Exemption letter

The exemption letter **MUST** be collected within **two (2) MONTHS** of the date of the approval. Failure to do so will result in the approval being withdrawn and a reapplication for the exemption being required.

Breaches and Consequences

An exemption may be suspended or revoked if any of its terms or conditions is breached, or if the holder fails to submit any documents and information as the NEPA may require.

Appendix 1

Sample Exemption Application Letter for Plastic Importation, Manufacture, Distribution, September 2018

16 September 2018

Mr. Peter Knight
CEO
National Environment and Planning Agency
10-11 Caledonia Avenue
Kingston

Dear Mr. Knight

Re: Application - Exemption for Plastic Importation/Manufacture/ Distribution by THIS COMPANY LTD

THIS COMPANY LTD hereby applies to the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) for an exemption for the importation/manufacture/distribution of (insert based on Part B- BUSINESS/ENTERPRISE/COMPANY DATA- Section 1 of the Exemption Application Form), plastic carrier bags/straws in the amount ofweight/volume/quantity.

These products will be used to satisfy the requirement...for.....

Attached is the completed Application Form together with the application fee of \$5000.00.

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive Officer