



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR RETAILERS

PLASTIC BAG LEVY INCREASE SUNDAY 1st JULY 2007

The Waste Management (Environmental Levy) (Plastic Bag) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2007 (S.I. No. 167 of 2007) increasing the levy on plastic bags from 15 cent to 22 cent was signed by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government on 24th April 2007. The increase comes into effect from Sunday July 1st 2007.

- The Regulations provide that the Plastic Bag Levy will increase from 15c to 22c per bag with effect from Sunday 1 July 2007
- Retailers are required to charge customers a levy of 22c where applicable from Sunday 1 July 2007
- Retailers should adjust point of sales systems to reflect the increase
- Retailers must carry out an opening stock take of plastic bags <u>before</u> the commencement of business on Sunday 1 July 2007
- The stock take record should specify the number of excepted plastic bags¹ in stock i.e. plastic bags excepted under Article 5 of the Waste Management (Environmental Levy) (Plastic Bag) Regulations 2001
- The stock take should also specify the number of plastic bags in stock other than those excepted under Article 5 of the Waste Management (Environmental Levy) (Plastic Bag) Regulations 2001.
- Retailers are reminded that excepted bags must not exceed 225mm in width (exclusive of any gussets), by 345mm in depth (inclusive of any gussets), by 450mm in length, (inclusive of any handles).

Further information on the plastic bag levy is available on www.environ.ie and www.revenue.ie

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¹ These are plastic bags used to contain only fresh meat, fish or poultry (packaged or unpackaged) or unpackaged fruit, nuts, vegetables, confectionery, dairy products, hot or cold cooked food and ice <u>and</u> plastic bags provided for goods sold to passengers in areas restricted to passengers in ports or airports and on commercial ships and aircraft