Single-use Plastics Exemption

Environmental Protection Act 1986

Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018

EXEMPTION NOTICE

Exemption number SUP0003/2024/2

Issued under Regulation 20(1)

Exemption type Class of persons

Exemption holder Manufacturers, suppliers and purchasers

of the prescribed plastic items listed in

Table 1 of this exemption notice

DWER file number

Date of issue 5 July 2024

Duration Ends 31 August 2026

Table 1: Prescribed plastic items and exempt specified circumstance

Prescribed plastic items	Specified exempt circumstance	Exemption reason
Takeaway food containers and takeaway food container lids	This class exemption is for the sale or supply of food containers and their lids and is only applicable for takeaway food uses when the container is holding soupy or liquid foods that can be poured and are served at over 60 degrees Celsius.	Currently there are limited food packaging options available that meet safe food handling requirements, reduce risks of leaking and provide an effective barrier for prolonged storage.

Government of Western Australia Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

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Declaration

In accordance with regulation 20(1) of the *Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018* I consider that it is reasonably necessary to grant Exemption Notice SUP0003/2024/2.

I HEREBY EXEMPT the Exemption Holder from regulation 7(1) of the *Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018*, subject to the conditions set out in this notice.

Adrian Wiley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CIRCULAR ECONOMY

CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Officer delegated under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

22 July 2025

Interpretation

In this Exemption Notice:

- (a) the words 'including', 'includes' and 'include' in conditions mean "including but not limited to", and similar, as appropriate;
- (b) where any word or phrase is given a defined meaning, any other part of speech or other grammatical form of that word or phrase has a corresponding meaning;
- (c) unless specified otherwise, any reference to a section of an Act refers to that section of the EP Act; and
- (d) unless specified otherwise, all definitions are in accordance with the EP Act.

Conditions

Conditions of supply

1. The Exemption Holder may supply the prescribed plastic items listed in Table 1 of this Exemption Notice in the specified exempt circumstance and for the corresponding exemption reason only.

Non-compliance reporting

- 2. Within 14 business days of becoming aware of any non-compliance with the conditions of this Exemption Notice, the Exemption Holder must notify the CEO in writing of that non-compliance and include in that notification the following information:
 - (a) which condition was not complied with;
 - (b) the time and date when the non-compliance occurred;
 - (c) the details and result of any investigation undertaken into the cause of the non-compliance;
 - (d) what action has been taken and the date on which it was taken to prevent the non-compliance occurring again; and
 - (e) what action will be taken and the date by which it will be taken to prevent the non-compliance occurring again.

Revocation or Variation

3. In accordance with regulation 20(5) of the regulations this exemption notice may be revoked or varied by the CEO or a Delegated Officer at any time by written notice.

END OF CONDITIONS

Definitions

In this Exemption Notice, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition	
CEO	means Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water an Environmental Regulation.	
	"submit to / notify the CEO" (or similar), means either:	
	plastic-exemptions@dwer.wa.gov.au	
	or:	
	Director General Department administering the Environmental Protection Act 1986 Locked Bag 10 Joondalup DC WA 6919	
Delegated officer	an officer under section 20 of the EP Act	
EP Act	means the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)	
Exemption Holder	means suppliers of the prescribed plastic items listed in Table 1 of this Exemption Notice	
food container	has the same meaning given to that term under the regulations	
purchasers or receivers	means any person, business, venue, store or retail outlet that has purchased (at a cost) or received (free of charge, or at a cost) the prescribed plastic items identified in Table 1 of this Exemption Notice	
regulations	means the Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018.	
Soupy and Liquid Foods	These items relate to takeaway food that can be poured and includes, but are not limited to:	
	Curry	
	Gravy	
	Soup	
	Laksa	
	These products are typically packaged currently in plastic containers or bowls with tight fitting lids.	
Soupy	having the appearance or consistency of soup	

OFFICIAL Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Term	Definition
supplier	is a manufacturer, wholesale or retail company that sells or supplies one or more of the prescribed plastic items listed in Table 1 of this Exemption Notice to a purchaser or consumer, and that manufacturer, wholesale or retail company has a valid:
	a) Australian Company Number (ACN) registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) to operate within Australia; or
	b) Australian Business Number (ABN) registered with the Business Registration Service to operate within Australia.
supply	has the same meaning given to that term in the regulations