



# Biodegradable barrier bag standard

Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018  
(Regulation 3B)

## Person who describes the required features of biodegradable barrier bags

I, Alistair Jones, in my capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of the department principally assisting the Minister for Environment in the administration of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*<sup>1</sup> hereby describe in this standard the required features of biodegradable barrier bags that are to be exempt from certain provisions under the *Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018*. This standard commences as of 1 October 2025.

## Required features of biodegradable barrier bags

This standard sets out the requirements relating to biodegradable barrier bags that are to be exempt from the operation of certain provisions of the *Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018*.

The requirements of this standard are as follows:

1. The bag must display the Australasian Bioplastic Association composting certification logo and the unique certification number, indicating that the bag complies with AS 4736-2006 or AS 5810-2010.
2. The bag must not have handles.
3. The bag must be composed of film to which a green tinting pigment, or no tinting pigments, have been added.
4. The bag must not be opaque.
5. If the bag is used to carry unpackaged fresh fruit or vegetables, the minimum opening circumference of the bag must not be less than 740mm.

**Alistair Jones**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Department of Water and Environmental Regulation**

25 August 2025

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<sup>1</sup> The 'department principally assisting the Minister for Environment in the administration of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*' is currently the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.