

SEMARNAT: New extension of non-business days period

Environmental – June 3, 2020

New extension of non-business days period of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, due to the COVID-19 health emergency

As a follow up of the Resolutions published in the Federal Official Gazette on March 24th, April 17th and April 30, 2020, respectively, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (“SEMARNAT”), published a new Resolution (the “Resolution”) which extends the suspension period for acts and administrative procedures carried out by SEMARNAT, since June 1, 2020 until the sanitary authority considers that there is no epidemiological risk of the gradual, cautious and order return to the activities related to the Federal Public Administration. In that regard, during such period the legal timeframe for filings, administrative acts and procedures will not be running before SEMARNAT.

Any action, request, filing or application submitted before SEMARNAT and its administrative agencies will be in effect until the following first business day to the conclusion of the aforementioned term.

The Resolution exempts the following matters:

- i. **Forestry**, including forestry land use change authorizations, forestry management and the technical unified opinion, among others.
- ii. **Environmental Impact** (including the Technical Unified Opinion), only for the essential economic activities (construction industry, mining and the fabrication of transportation equipment) and works of the following priority projects: Aeropuerto General Felipe Ángeles,

Parque Ecológico Lago de Texcoco, Sistema Aeroportuario de la Ciudad de México, Tren Maya and the generation of electricity for the modernization of Plants and hydroelectric industry, among others.

- iii. **Biohazard wastes**, registries of services providers and authorizations for their management.
- iv. **Air Emissions**, submission of the Annual Operation Card.
- v. **Hydrocarbon sector**, exploration and extraction of hydrocarbons, distribution and commercialization of natural gas, distribution and commercialization of liquefied petroleum gas, and distribution and commercialization of petroleum derivatives. All of them, acts and procedures competence of the Industrial Management Direction of the National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection of the Hydrocarbons Sector ("ASEA")
- vi. Transboundary movements of hazardous materials and wastes.
- vii. New Vehicle Certificates and Environmental Certificates.
- viii. Hydraulic Infrastructure.
- ix. Natural Protected Areas, and,
- x. Procedures for acquisitions, leases and services regarding public works and related services.

The Resolution provides the hours and special offices for the filing of such procedures.

Likewise, on the same date, May 29, 2020, it was published the Resolution of the National Waters Commission ("CONAGUA"), which extends the period of suspension of the terms to continue domicile visits or reviews of cabinet, as well as the statutory terms of procedures other than the above, substantiated by the General Coordination of Collections and the Coordination of Collections of the Local Offices of CONAGUA, due to unforeseen circumstances or acts of god caused by the pandemic of disease COVID-19, since June 1, 2020 until the sanitary authority considers that there is no epidemiological risk of the gradual, cautious and order return to the activities related to the Federal Public Administration,. In that regard, during such period the legal timeframe for filings, administrative acts and procedures will not be running before CONAGUA.

Any action, request, filing or application submitted before CONAGUA will be in effect until the following first business day to the conclusion of the aforementioned term.

Both Resolutions entered into force on June 1, 2020. For further reference, please visit the link that access to the [Resolutions](#).

Should these measures have an adverse effect on you, please do not hesitate to contact our team with expertise in environmental matters, who can be of assistance:

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