# Holland & Knight ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS: MEXICO



May 2025



#### **Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources**

(Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales or SEMARNAT)

• Administrative Simplification: SEMARNAT published the agreement on May, 27, 2025, establishing simplification measures for procedures carried out before the National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection of the Hydrocarbon Sector (ASEA). Under this agreement, 19 procedures before the ASEA are merged according to their content and applicability into four general procedures: 1) delivery and modification of the Root Cause Investigation Activity Program for Type 2 and Type 3 events, 2) delivery of the final report and the notice of commitment and compliance with the implementation of the recommendations generated from the root cause investigations, 3) delivery of notices and/or opinions on Mexican official standards and 4) notice of the start of operations and delivery of the pre-start opinion for the transfer facilities, with various applicability modalities.

#### **Federal Executive**

• Economic Development Poles for Well-Being: The Federal Executive published the agreement on May 22, 2025, issuing the guidelines for the Economic Development Poles for Well-Being and the decree granting tax fiscal incentives to these poles. In general, these instruments are intended to establish the integration, powers, quorum, development of sessions, decisions and other aspects related to the Inter-ministerial Promotion Committee (Committee) for the Economic Development Poles for Well-Being¹ (Poles). The Committee includes representatives from various ministries, such as SEMARNAT, the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, the Ministry of Agriculture, Territorial and Urban Development, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Economy, the latter of which will chair the Committee.

Under the guidelines issued, it is established that the Committee must issue collegiate opinions for the determination of the Poles, considering the viability opinions issued by its members and observing the "sustainability criterion." It is indicated that these Poles must be located outside the protected natural areas referred to in the General Law on Ecological Balance and Environmental Protection and, where appropriate, comply with circular economy criteria.

• Natural Gas Liquefaction Facilities: SEMARNAT published the agreement on May 21, 2025, by which the title of the general administrative provisions that establish the guidelines on industrial safety, operational safety and environmental protection for the design, construction, pre-startup, operation and maintenance, closure, decommissioning and abandonment of natural gas liquefaction facilities are modified and repealed. The program establishes that those opinions of the program of industrial safety, operational safety and environmental protection activities of abandonment, as well as the technical evaluation of their execution, which have been issued prior to the date of entry into force of the agreement, will be recognized by ASEA until the end of its validity.

Delimited geographic areas characterized by a high potential for economic and social growth.

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#### **SEMARNAT and Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)**

SEMARNAT and the state-owned public company, PEMEX, signed a framework collaboration agreement with the aim of strengthening joint environmental actions aligned with the priorities of the Mexican government. The agreement was signed by SEMARNAT Secretary Alicia Bárcena Ibarra and PEMEX CEO Víctor Rodríguez Padilla. The agreement contemplates the active participation of both institutions in strategic projects with high environmental and social impact.

#### Main objectives of the agreement:

- Promote the rehabilitation of the Tula, Lerma-Santiago and Atoyac rivers
- Develop the Ecological and Circular Economy Park in Tula, Hidalgo

#### **Commitments made:**

- Exchange technical knowledge and good practices in environmental education, circular economy and sanitation
- Establish a legal and administrative basis that allows the implementation of investments and strategic alliances that strengthen the country's environmental sustainability



### Congress Report: What to Expect

National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection of the Hydrocarbon Sector (Agencia Nacional de Seguridad Industrial y de Protección al Medio Ambiente del Sector Hidrocarburos or ASEA)

Preliminary projects of the National Commission for Regulatory Improvement (Comisión Nacional de Mejora Regulatoria or CONAMER):

Agreement for the control and monitoring of emissions of pollutants into the atmosphere: The purpose of the agreement is to establish control and monitoring actions that must be implemented by regulated entities for the prevention and reduction of pollutant emissions into the atmosphere at service stations for the specific purpose of selling gasoline and/or diesel to the public.

#### **Contact Us**



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