

SEMARNAT simplifies procedures and issues new forms for submitting applications

Mexico City, August 13, 2025

On July 25, 2025, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (*Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales*) ("SEMARNAT") published in the Federal Official Gazette (*Diario Oficial de la Federación*) the "Agreement announcing the administrative simplification measures applied, issuing and modifying the forms for procedures handled by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources" (the "Agreement").

With this Agreement, SEMARNAT implements various administrative measures to facilitate and optimize the submission of procedures, reducing requirements and decreasing the time needed to resolve applications.

The first administrative simplification measures established in the Agreement include the reduction of requirements and authorization to submit documents in digital format for procedures involving the General Office of Forest Management, Soils, and Ecological Planning (*Dirección General de Gestión Forestal, Suelos y Ordenamiento Ecológico*), and the General Office of Environmental Impact and Risk (*Dirección General de Impacto y Riesgo Ambiental*), in the following cases:

A. Submission of documents in digital platform

- Application for the forest land use change authorization
- Application for forest remissions to certify the legal origin of forest raw materials (subsequent modality)
- Notice of waiver of rights derived from authorizations or notices for the use of forest resources
- Application for suspension of the authorization of forest use

B. Reduction of requirements

- Exemption from the submission of the environmental impact assessment
- Modifications to work, activity, or deadlines and terms established for projects authorized on environmental impact matters
- Operating License or Comprehensive Environmental License
- Application for forest re-shipments to certify the legal origin of forest raw materials (subsequent modality)
- Application for the extension of the deadline for the execution of the forest land use change

C. Submission of documents in digital format with reduced requirements

- Submission, evaluation, and resolution of the preventive report
- Annual report on the implementation, development, and compliance with the forest use program
- Authorization to initiate the cutting plan, alter the approved schedule, or modify the forest management program
- Request for forest referrals to certify the legal origin of forest raw materials (first-time modality)
- Notice of termination and/or change of forest technical services provider
- Modification of the forest land use change authorization
- Application for authorization to operate centers not integrated into a primary processing center
- Application for authorization to operate centers for the storage and processing of forest raw materials, and mobile centers for the processing of forest products

Regarding the procedures handled by the General Office of Industry, Clean Energies, and Air Quality Management (*Dirección General de Industria, Energías Limpias y Gestión de la Calidad del Aire*), the Comprehensive Environmental License and Operating License procedures are merged into a single procedure called the *Operating License or Comprehensive Environmental License*, reducing the processing time to 45 business days, as well as the requirements. Likewise, the requirements and the response times for the procedure for joining the Program for the Reduction of Pollutant Emissions into the Atmosphere are reduced.

As a final measure, this Agreement incorporates the new updated forms for all the previously mentioned procedures, which can be consulted at the following [link](#). Once the Agreement comes into force, these forms will also be available on the [SEMARNAT](#) website and in the [National](#)

[Catalogue](#) of the National Commission for Regulatory Improvement (*Comisión Nacional de Mejora Regulatoria*).

Finally, the administrative simplification measures will come into effect on August 15, 2025, and it is noted that regarding procedures submitted prior to this date, these will be resolved in accordance with the regulations in force at the time of their submission.

* * *

This document is a summary for disclosure purposes only. It does not constitute an opinion and may not be used or quoted without our prior written permission. We assume no responsibility for the content, scope or use of this document. For any comments regarding it, please contact any partner of our firm.