

ACTUALIDADES LEGALES

AUGUST 2009

WASTE MANAGEMENT

On August 18, 2009, the Legislative of Assembly of the Federal District of Mexico published in the local Official Gazette a decree through which giving out plastic bags free of charge in commercial establishments is banned. The use of plastic bags will only be permitted when necessary for purposes of hygienic or food or raw preservation and the use of biodegradable technologies in substituting bags is not feasible.

WATER

On August 19, 2009, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT for its acronym in Spanish) published in the Federal Official Gazette the following official Mexican standards:

1.- NOM-014-CONAGUA-2003, which provides the requirements applicable to the artificial aquifer recharge systems that use treated waste water. This standard is applicable to new or existing works that discharge treated wastewater to storage or increase water volume in the aquifer for its recovery and reuse.

2.- NOM-015-CONAGUA-2007, which provides the characteristics and specifications of the works and activities for the infiltration by disposal of storm water and superficial drips into the soil. This standard is applicable to works with a capacity of at least 60 litres per second.

CLIMATE CHANGE

On August 28, 2009 SEMARNAT published in the Federal Official Gazette the Special Program for Climate Change 2009-2012, which establishes long term objectives, general strategies and national development priorities which are focused on mitigation and adaptation opportunities. Likewise, the Mexican government assumes the commitment of closely follow up and periodically review the program to keep it updated and in accordance with applicable international agreements and programs.