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Another Round Of Petrochemical Reclassification

by Steven Ranieri

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On Aug. 16, the Mexican Petrochemical Commission (CPM) announced the third consecutive petrochemical product reclassification. The Commission is comprised of the president of the state-run oil company PEMEX, and Energy, Mines and State-run Industries (SEMIP), and Trade and Industrial Development (SECOFI) ministers. SEMIP reported that the government maintains exclusivity in basic petrochemicals, or ethanol, propane, butanes, pentanes, hexane, heptane, and raw materials used in processing selected oils and lubricants. Secondary petrochemicals include acetylene, ammonia, benzene, butadiene, butylenes, ethylene, methanol, N-parafins, toluene, propylene, orthoxylene, xylenes, and paraxylene. Products which do not appear in basic and secondary petrochemical listings will be deregulated, and can be elaborated by private and public companies, or cooperatives. Potential producers of these chemicals are required only to register with SEMIP via the CPM. Next, officials have 30 days to respond to requests for authorization for petrochemical production. If the applicant does not receive a response in that time, the request will be considered approved by default. (Source: Notimex, 08/16/92)

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