

COFECE-001-2020

As of January, concentration notifications may only be filed through electronic means

- As of January 24, notification of concentrations that COFECE must review by law, will only be received through the Electronic Procedure System at the Commission's website.
- This measure simplifies the procedures, reduces costs and times of the notification proceeding, to the benefit of the economy and Economic Agents who intend to carry out a concentration.

Mexico City, January 16, 2020.- As of January 24 this year, the notifications of a concentration will only be received through the Electronic Concentration Notification System (SINEC for its acronym in Spanish), which is a part of the Mexican Federal Economic Competition Commission's (COFECE or Commission) Electronic Procedure System (SITEC for its acronym in Spanish). In this regard, the COFECE urges Economic Agents to have the necessary elements to notify a concentration through the system and become familiar with it.

To be able to make notifications, the Economic Agent that submits the notice must open an account in the SITEC (see the <u>Manual in Spanish</u>) and have an Advanced Electronic Signature issued by the Tax Administration Service, among other requirements (available in the <u>Technical Instructions</u>).

These changes to the concentrations review procedure are due to the expiration of the 24month period, set forth in the transitory articles of the *Guidelines for the Notification of Concentrations through Electronic Means before the Federal Economic Competition Commission*, during which the notifications of concentrations by electronic means were optional. Consequently, the Commission reiterates that, as of the aforementioned date, the processing of concentrations through the SINEC will be mandatory, and notifications will no longer be received at the Commission's filing office.

With this change to the notification process, the Commission confirms its commitment to simplifying procedures and reducing costs and time, to the benefit of the economy and the Economic Agents that intend to carry out a concentration.

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The SINEC allows users to submit documents, receive notifications, access files remotely 24hours-a-day, and, generally, to carry out a concentration proceeding electronically.

Why, for what end and how to notify a concentration between companies?

- <u>Guidelines for Concentration Notification via Electronic Means before the Federal Economic</u> <u>Competition Commission (in Spanish)</u>
- <u>SITEC Technical Instructions (in Spanish)</u>
- <u>SINEC Manual (in Spanish)</u>
- <u>Thresholds for concentration notification (in Spanish)</u> and <u>Information that may be presented by</u> <u>an economic agent to contribute to concentration analysis</u>

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The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. This contributes to people's well-being and the efficient functioning of markets. With its work, COFECE seeks better conditions for consumers, more services of higher quality and a "level playing field" for companies.

