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Mexico Issues New Regulations on Electric Vehicle and Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle Charging

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On September 10, 2024, Regulation A/108/2024 was published in the Official Journal of the Federation, in which the Energy Regulatory Commission (“CRE”) announced the new General Administrative Provisions on Electromobility (“EV Regulations”). These new EV Regulations seek to regulate the orderly connection of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles (“EV”) and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (“PHEV”) into Mexico’s National Electric System (“SEN”). The EV Regulations address important issues, such as (i) the technical and administrative requirements with which end users must comply to connect their charging infrastructure to the SEN; (ii) the minimal information that end users and suppliers must provide to the Electromobility Platform; and (iii) procedures to ensure continuity, reliability and safety in the electricity supply.

This new EV Regulations also define electromobility infrastructure, differentiating paid charging stations, electric bus terminals and free charging stations. Also, the EV Regulations include a detailed classification of charger types, connections and charging models, along with the requirements for their installation. Furthermore, they establish that end user who seeks to install charging infrastructure must apply for a new independent electric energy supply contract. If the electric tension is less than 69 kV, the application should be filed with the distributor through the supplier; if not, it should be filed with the National Energy Control Center (“CENACE”).

Among the main supplier’s obligations, include the submission of reports to CRE and CENACE concerning requests the supplier has attended to for electric energy supply services for the charging of EV and PHEV. Meanwhile, end users with charging infrastructure must: (i) submit the request for electric service to the supplier, attaching supporting documentation; (ii) in case of paid charging stations, keep appendix 2 of the EV Regulation regarding the price of electric energy duly updated; (iii) execute the contract for the connection of the load center dedicated exclusively to electric vehicle charging; (iv) hire certified personnel to install the charging infrastructure, among others.

Other key aspects included in the EV Regulations are the following: (i) the configuration of technical requirements for the installation of smart chargers; (ii) the design of technical and signaling parameters that paid charging stations, electric bus terminals and free charging stations must comply with; and (iii) the establishment of continuous monitoring by CRE to load centers, suppliers and distributors for the purpose of verifying compliance with these provisions.

The new EV Regulations are relevant given the recent fast-paced growth in the electric vehicle industry. INEGI estimates that the production of electric vehicles between January and August of 2024 reached up to 125,280 units, which exceeds the total production in 2023 by more than 14%, when just 109,695 units were manufactured.

At CCN, we have attorneys licensed in Mexico who specialize in advising clients on legislation and procedures within the electromobility subsector, who can guide readers on how the new EV Regulations could impact projects in Mexico.