

COFECE notified an economic agent of a Statement of Probable Responsibility for relative monopolistic practices in the salt market

- *In the Statement of Probable Responsibility, the Investigative Authority finds that there is sufficient evidence to presume the notified agent possibly carried out an anticompetitive conduct.*
- *The notification of the statement of probable responsibility indicates the initiation of the trial-like procedure, in which the notified economic agent may address COFECE's allegations.*

Mexico City, November 29, 2018.- The Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) notified an economic agent of a statement of probable responsibility for relative monopolistic practices (unilateral conducts) in the market for the production, wholesale distribution and/or commercialization of salt.

The investigation was initiated on December 1, 2015, following a complaint, under file DE-016-2015, and concluded on July 16, 2018. In the Statement of Probable Responsibility, the Investigative Authority indicates having knowledge of facts that possibly derived in a relative monopolistic practice known as refusal to deal. This conduct consists in a dominant business not selling or providing certain goods or services that are available and usually provided to third parties.

Relative monopolistic practices consist of any act, contract, agreement, procedure or combination carried out by one or more economic agents with substantial market power, with the purpose or effect to unduly displace other economic agents in the relevant market, substantially impede their access to the market or establish exclusive advantages that benefit one or several economic agents, such as loyalty discounts and rebates, tied sales, exclusive dealing, boycott, predatory pricing, cross-subsidies, price discrimination and/or raising rivals' costs.

The notification of the Statement of Probable Responsibility establishes the initiation of the case's trial-like procedure conducted by the Technical Secretariat of this Commission.



During which, the alleged offender has the right to argue in his/her favor and submit evidence related to the allegations presented against him/her. Once the facts have been addressed, the evidence processed, and the corresponding arguments presented, COFECE's Board of Commissioners may issue a resolution as per the law.

If existence of a relative monopolistic practice is proven, the economic agent may be sanctioned according to the Federal Economic Competition Law.

See in Spanish: [What is a relative monopolistic practice?](#) and [What are Statements of Probable Responsibility and what is their purpose?](#)

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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, a wider choice of products and services of higher quality and a "level playing field" for companies.

