

PUBLIC NOTICE

Receipt of Environmental Submission

TWO PANAMANIAN CITIZENS PRESENTED AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUBMISSION BEFORE THE SECRETARIAT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT MATTERS, DESIGNATED TO RECEIVE SUCH SUBMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 17.8 OF THE UNITED STATES – PANAMA TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT, FOR THE ALLEGED FAILURE TO ENFORCE ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, WITH RESPECT TO THE PREPARATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BAY OF PANAMA WETLANDS PROTECTED AREA AND WILDLIFE REFUGE.

Panama City, May 10, 2019. On Wednesday, May 8, 2019, María Gabriella Dutary and Luisa Pilar Araúz Arredondo, citizens of Panama and practicing attorneys, on their own behalf, presented an Environmental Submission via e-mail to the Secretariat for Environmental Enforcement Matters (SEEM) of the United States – Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (US-Panama TPA), in which they claim that the Republic of Panama is not effectively enforcing its environmental legislation.

In the Communication, identified as SALA-CA-PMA / 001/2019 "Bay of Panama Wetlands," the submitters assert that the Republic of Panama has failed to comply with environmental legislation in Panama, with respect to the development of a management plan for the wildlife refuge Bay of Panama Wetland.

SEEM is currently analyzing the Environmental Submission to determine compliance with the submission requirements established in Article 17.8.2 of Chapter 17 of the US-Panama TPA in order to continue with the corresponding procedures.

Additional information is available on the SEEM website:

www.sala-seem.org