

Agency	Environmental responsibilities	Comments
State governments	All but two states have environmental laws, and may have environmental standards stricter than federal equivalent; source of funding for municipal wastewater plants.	States will play a larger role in environmental management practices; states must approve all municipal build-operate-transfer (BOT) and concessions that last longer than three years.
Municipal governments	Responsible for solid waste collection and disposal services and enforcement of regulations governing effluent from industrial plants into the municipal drainage system.	Term of office is three years.

*Environmental Impact Assessments

STANDARDS

Mexican official standards are known as *Normas Oficiales Mexicanas (NOMs)* and are formulated by government committees in all sectors, with participation from industry, universities and research institutes. The *Instituto Nacional de Ecología (INECO)*, National Institute of Ecology, has authority under the *Ley de Equilibrio Ecológico y Protección al Medio Ambiente*, Law for Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection, to develop environmental standards. By mid-1994 the *INECO* had published 58 *NOMs*. Sixteen more are planned for 1995.

The wastewater *NOMs* are issued for individual industries. Those for air pollution and hazardous wastes are organized according to source. The new standards expected in 1995 deal with all three areas.

ENFORCEMENT

The *Procuraduría Federal para la Protección del Ambiente (PROFEPA)*, Federal Office for Environmental Protection, is responsible for the enforcement of most environmental standards. Most wastewater standards are in the jurisdiction of the *Comisión Nacional del Agua (CNA)*, National Water Commission, although *PROFEPA* has some jurisdiction in that area as well. *PROFEPA* employed more than 500 environmental inspectors in 1993 and additional hirings were scheduled for 1994.