

Venezuela - Legal and Economic Newsletter December 2017

Energy and Petroleum

- Regime of validation of contracts signed by PDVSA, its Affiliates, and Mixed Companies.
- Guidelines for the public actions necessary to assure immediate protection of the National Electric System.

Banking and Finance

Creation of the Superintendence of Cryptoassets and Connected Activities.

Establishment of the interest rates applicable to the obligations derived from employment relationships.

Labor

Occupational nature of accidents during recreational activities promoted by employers.

Increase in minimum salary.

Adjustment of calculation base for payment of Socialist *Cestaticket*.

Tax

- Income tax payment exemption up to 32,000 Tax Units for natural persons.
- Constitutional Law on Creation of Penalizing Tax Unit.
- Constitutional Law of the Tax Regime for Sovereign Development of the *Arco Minero*.
- Establishment of the rate applicable to the calculation of late payment interest for September and October 2017.
- Updating of customs tariff preferences and of AEC rate at the SIDUNEA system.

Miscellaneous

- Declaration of ecosocialist mining use of areas within the National Strategic Development Zone "*Arco Minero del Orinoco*".
- Formation of Technical Team for reviewing the regulatory frame of the Venezuelan criminal justice system.
- Suppression and liquidation of Venalcasa S.A. and other companies.
- Authorization for sale of strategic minerals from primary activities to the VCB.
- Conditions to assure supply at fair prices of tires and components associated with them for public service of transportation.
- Extension of Temporary Provision Seventh of the Decree with the Status, Value and Force of Organic Law that Reserves to the State the Activities of Exploration and Exploitation of Gold and other Strategic Minerals.

Lease of Dwelling Units

Delegation of competence to the National Superintendence of Housing Lease.

Foreign Investments

Constitutional Law of Productive Foreign Investment