

From: CEC SEM Unit

Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 11:25 AM

To: Submitters

Cc:

Subject: RE: Final Factual Record SEM-21-003 (North Atlantic right whale) sent to CEC Council

Dear Submitters,

Due to the federal government shutdown, the United States requested that we pause the SEM process, specifically the review process which runs for 30 calendar days after the final factual record is submitted to the CEC Council. As you know, the Secretariat submitted the final factual record to the Council on 17 October 2025. Since federal employees were furloughed during this time, the United States could not review the final factual record and determine whether it would allow publication to occur or instruct the Secretariat not to publish the factual record per Article 24.28(6). Canada and Mexico expressed support for the US request for a pause.

Now that the US government shutdown has ended, the 30-day review period begins today. Publication of the factual record is scheduled for **12 December 2025** with the caveat that two or more Council members could instruct us not to publish it.

Yours sincerely,

Doris Millan

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Asistente del Director, Asuntos jurídicos y Unidad SEM

Adjointe au directeur, Affaires juridiques et Communications
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