

ACCESS TO FACILITY-SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic approved *Ley No.200-04 - [Ley General de Libre Acceso a la Información Pública \(Law number 200-04 - Law on Access to Information\)](#)* on 28 July 2004, which allows public access to information from the government and private organizations that receive public money to conduct state business.

The law has a broad purpose: *“to ensure free access to public information, a law is required that rules its exercise and that, among other things, provides for the exceptions allowed to this universal right in the event that there is a real and imminent danger that threatens national security or public order.”* Preamble to Ley No. 200-04.

Article 2 specifies its broad scope:

“This right of information includes the right to access the information contained in minutes and records of the public administration, as well as to be regularly informed, when required of the activities carried out by entities and persons performing public functions, provided that this access does not affect national security, public order, public health or morality or the right to privacy and privacy of a third party or the right to reputation of others. It also includes the freedom to search, request, receive and disseminate information belonging to the administration of the State and to consult entities and persons performing public functions, having the right to obtain a copy of the documents.”

Article 7 describes the procedures which require a written request and “the reasons why the requested data and information are required.” [this is unusual for Freedom of Information laws internationally]. Article 8 provides a general 15-day deadline to provide information.

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