



May 9, 2019

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is working with Mexican Shellfish Authorities regarding a Shigella outbreak linked to raw oysters from Estero El Cardon, Baja California Sur, Mexico. The FDA has confirmed that contaminated raw oysters were harvested from Estero El Cardon and shipped to California by SOL AZUL, S.A. DE C.V. (MX 01 SS). Further distribution information is pending and will be provided as it becomes available. The last known harvest date associated with Shigella illness was March 2, 2019.

Mexico implemented a precautionary closure of the growing area on May 7, 2019 as a result of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and other gastrointestinal illness concerns. On May 8th Mexico was informed a Shigella outbreak was confirmed. The growing area implicated remains closed while Authorities investigate the cause and the extent of the outbreak, to ensure implicated shellfish is removed from the food supply. At this time, it is believed no further product exists on the market. Due to a lag in reporting, State and Country officials are continuing to investigate illness reports. Simultaneous investigations into other reported illnesses are being conducted. Additional information will be posted as it becomes available, including if other illnesses are determined to be related.



COURTESY TRANSLATION

Letter No. COS/DEPE/GSP/332/2019

México City, May 9th, 2019

KEN B. MOORE
Executive Director of Interstate Shellfish
Sanitation Conference (ISSC)
209-2 Dawson Road
Columbia, SC 29223

We want inform to you that Health Authority of the State of Baja California Sur proceeded to implement a precautionary closure in the growing area of “Estero El Cardón” from last May 7th, 2019, because the Health Authority of the State of California communicated that they have to possible epidemiological findings of that involving product from this growing area is presumptive implicated with cases of foodborne illness for the presence of *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and other agents.

We reiterate that any change in health status related to sanitary status of this growing area will be inform to the ISSC and the FDA with opportunity.

**EFFECTIVE SUFRAGE. NO REELECTION.
MONITORING PROGRAMS MANNAGER.**

GUILLERMO ARROYO GÓMEZ.

Copies. **Ricardo Cárdenas Orozco.** Executive Director, Supervision and Sanitary Surveillance.
Blanca Pulido Medrano. State Commissioner for the Protection again Sanitary Risks, Baja California Sur.
Peter N. Koufopoulos. Director, Division of Seafood Safety, Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
File.

GAG/JABI