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Factsheet for case **ES-2020-12/502**

Guarantee of water and energy supply to vulnerable consumers

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Country	Spain, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 18 March 2020 - 18 April 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Measures to prevent social hardship – Protection of vulnerable groups (beyond employment support)
Case created	12 April 2020 (updated 01 May 2020)

Background information

Protection is extended to energy and water supplies, guaranteeing the essential public services for vulnerable families. As a novelty, the services of telecommunications are also guaranteed. This means that over the duration of this measure, those who can't afford to pay the bills of these essential services can't be interrupted. The objective of this measure is to protect those families / persons at risk of exclusion or in a vulnerable position.

Content of measure

There is no quantification of the support provided.

During the month following the entry into force of this royal decree-law, suppliers of electric energy, natural gas and water may not suspend supply to those consumers in which the condition of vulnerable, severe vulnerable consumer or at risk of exclusion occurs, as defined in articles 3 and 4 of Royal Decree 897/2017, of October 6, which regulates the figure of the vulnerable consumer, the social bonus and other protection measures for domestic consumers.

The validity of the social bond is automatically extended until September 15, 2020 for those beneficiaries of the bond that expires before that date, the period provided for in article 9.2 of Royal Decree 897/2017, of 6 October.

Use of measure

There is no estimation on the number of eligible persons.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Company / Companies	Other workers & citizens	No special funding required

Social partners

Role of social partners	Informed
Form of involvement	No involvement

Social partners were informed but were not involved in the process

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 18 March 2020: Royal Decree-Law 8/2020, of March 17, on extraordinary and urgent measures to face the economic and social impact of COVID-19. (www.boe.es)