INITIAL DECISION RELEASE NO. 763 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING File No. 3-16410

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Before the SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

In the Matter of

AGENT 155 MEDIA CORP., QSOUND LABS, INC., STEN CORP., and WIND ENERGY AMERICA, INC. INITIAL DECISION OF DEFAULT April 1, 2015

APPEARANCE: Neil J. Welch, Jr., for the Division of Enforcement, Securities and

Exchange Commission

BEFORE: James E. Grimes, Administrative Law Judge

# **SUMMARY**

This Initial Decision revokes the registrations of the registered securities of Respondents QSound Labs, Inc., and Wind Energy America, Inc. (collectively Default Respondents). The revocations are based on Default Respondents' failures to timely file required periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### INTRODUCTION

On February 27, 2015, the Commission initiated this proceeding with an Order Instituting Administrative Proceedings (OIP), pursuant to Section 12(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The OIP alleges that Default Respondents have securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(g) and have repeatedly failed to file timely periodic reports with the Commission, in violation of Exchange Act Section 13(a) and Rules 13a-1 and/or 13a-13 thereunder. On March 19, 2015, I issued an order noting that Default Respondents did not participate in the telephonic prehearing conference held on March 18, 2015, and had not filed Answers to the OIP, due by March 16, 2015. *Agent 155 Media Corp.*, Admin. Proc. Rulings

Agent 155 Media Corp.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The proceedings as to Respondents Agent 155 Media Corp. and STEN Corp. have ended. *See Agent 155 Media Corp.*, Exchange Act Release No. 74530, 2015 WL 1247373 (Mar. 19, 2015) (as to STEN Corp.); Exchange Act Release No. 74515, 2015 WL 1197418 (Mar. 17, 2015) (as to

Release No. 2443, 2015 SEC LEXIS 1020. I ordered Default Respondents to show cause by March 28, 2015, why the registrations of their securities should not be revoked by default due to their failures to file Answers and to participate in the prehearing conference, warning that failure to do so would result in them being deemed in default, having the proceeding determined against them, and having the registrations of their securities revoked. *Id.* (citing OIP at 3; 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a)(2), .220(f), .221(f)). To date, Default Respondents have not filed Answers or responded to the Order to Show Cause.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

Default Respondents are in default for failing to file Answers, appear at the prehearing conference, or otherwise defend the proceeding. *See* OIP at 3; 17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a)(1)-(2), .220(f), .221(f). Accordingly, as authorized by Rule 155(a), 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(a), I find the following allegations in the OIP to be true.

QSound Labs, Inc., Central Index Key (CIK) No. 840518, is an Alberta corporation located in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, with a class of securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(g). QSound Labs is delinquent in its periodic filings with the Commission, having not filed any periodic reports since it filed a Form 20-F for the period ended December 31, 2007, which reported a net loss of \$1,306,067 for the prior twelve months. As of February 12, 2015, the company's stock (symbol "QSND") was quoted on OTC Link, had seven market makers, and was eligible for the "piggyback" exception of Exchange Act Rule 15c2-11(f)(3).

Wind Energy America, Inc., CIK No. 351809, is an inactive Minnesota corporation located in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, with a class of securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(g). Wind Energy America is delinquent in its periodic filings with the Commission, having not filed any periodic reports since it filed a Form 10-K for the period ended June 30, 2010, which reported a net loss of \$5,394,342 for the prior twelve months. As of February 12, 2015, the company's stock (symbol "WNEA") was quoted on OTC Link, had seven market makers, and was eligible for the "piggyback" exception of Exchange Act Rule 15c2-11(f)(3).

Default Respondents failed to heed delinquency letters sent to them by the Commission's Division of Corporation Finance requesting compliance with their periodic filing obligations or, through their failure to maintain a valid address on file with the Commission as required by Commission rules, did not receive such letters.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Exchange Act Section 13(a) and Rules 13a-1 and 13a-13 require public corporations to file annual and quarterly reports with the Commission. "Compliance with those requirements is mandatory and may not be subject to conditions from the registrant." *America's Sports Voice, Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 55511, 2007 SEC LEXIS 1241, at \*12 (Mar. 22, 2007), *recons. denied*, Exchange Act Release No. 55867, 2007 SEC LEXIS 1239 (June 6, 2007). Scienter is not required to establish violations of Exchange Act Section 13(a) and Rules 13a-1 and 13a-13.

See SEC v. McNulty, 137 F.3d 732, 740-41 (2d Cir. 1998); SEC v. Wills, 472 F. Supp. 1250, 1268 (D.D.C. 1978). There is no genuine issue of material fact that Default Respondents failed to file timely periodic reports. As a result, Default Respondents failed to comply with Exchange Act Section 13(a) and Rules 13a-1 and/or 13a-13.

### **SANCTIONS**

Under Exchange Act Section 12(j), the Commission is authorized, "as it deems necessary or appropriate for the protection of investors," to revoke the registration of a security or suspend for a period not exceeding twelve months if it finds, after notice and an opportunity for hearing, that the issuer of the security has failed to comply with any provision of the Exchange Act or rules thereunder. In proceedings pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(j) against issuers that violated Exchange Act Section 13(a) and Rules 13a-1 and 13a-13, the determination "of what sanctions will ensure that investors will be adequately protected . . . turns on the effect on the investing public, including both current and prospective investors, of the issuer's violations, on the one hand, and the Section 12(j) sanctions, on the other hand." *Gateway Int'l Holdings, Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 53907, 2006 SEC LEXIS 1288, at \*19 (May 31, 2006). The Commission "consider[s], among other things, the seriousness of the issuer's violations, the isolated or recurrent nature of the violations, the degree of culpability involved, the extent of the issuer's efforts to remedy its past violations and ensure future compliance, and the credibility of its assurances, if any, against further violations." *Id.* at \*19-20.

Default Respondents' failures to file required periodic reports are serious because they violate a central provision of the Exchange Act. The purpose of periodic reporting is "to supply investors with current and accurate financial information about an issuer so that they may make sound [investment] decisions." Id. at \*26. The reporting requirements are the primary tool that Congress fashioned for the protection of investors from negligent, careless, and deliberate misrepresentations in the sale of securities. SEC v. Beisinger Indus. Corp., 552 F.2d 15, 18 (1st Cir. 1977). Default Respondents' violations are also recurrent in that they repeatedly failed to file periodic reports. See Nature's Sunshine Prods., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 59268, 2009 SEC LEXIS 81, at \*20 (Jan. 21, 2009) (respondent failed to file seven required periodic reports due over a two-year period); Impax Labs., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 57864, 2008 SEC LEXIS 1197, at \*25-26 (May 23, 2008) (respondent's failure to make eight filings over an eighteen-month period considered recurrent). Default Respondents are also culpable because they failed to heed delinquency letters sent to them by the Commission's Division of Corporation Finance. See China-Biotics, Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 70800, 2013 SEC LEXIS 3451, at \*37 & n.60 (Nov. 4, 2013) (holding that revocation may be warranted even without proof that a respondent was aware of its reporting obligations). Finally, Default Respondents have not answered the OIP, appeared at the prehearing conference, or otherwise participated in the proceeding to address whether they have made any efforts to remedy their past violations, and have made no assurances against further violations.

For the reasons described above, it is necessary and appropriate for the protection of investors to revoke the registration of each class of registered securities of Default Respondents.

### ORDER

It is ORDERED that, pursuant to Section 12(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrations of each class of registered securities of QSound Labs, Inc. and Wind Energy America, Inc. are hereby REVOKED.

This Initial Decision shall become effective in accordance with and subject to the provisions of Rule 360, 17 C.F.R. § 201.360. Pursuant to that Rule, a party may file a petition for review of this Initial Decision within twenty-one days after service of the Initial Decision. A party may also file a motion to correct a manifest error of fact within ten days of the Initial Decision, pursuant to Rule 111, 17 C.F.R. § 201.111(h). If a motion to correct a manifest error of fact is filed by a party, then a party shall have twenty-one days to file a petition for review from the date of the undersigned's order resolving such motion to correct a manifest error of fact.

This Initial Decision will not become final until the Commission enters an order of finality. The Commission will enter an order of finality unless a party files a petition for review or a motion to correct a manifest error of fact or the Commission determines on its own initiative to review the Initial Decision as to a party. If any of these events occur, the Initial Decision shall not become final as to that party.

A respondent may move to set aside a default. Rule 155(b) permits the Commission, at any time, to set aside a default for good cause, in order to prevent injustice and on such conditions as may be appropriate. 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(b). A motion to set aside a default shall be made within a reasonable time, state the reasons for the failure to appear or defend, and specify the nature of the proposed defense in the proceeding. *Id*.

James E. Grimes Administrative Law Judge