### INITIAL DECISION RELEASE NO. 814 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDING FILE NO. 3-16559

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

In the Matter of	:	
	:	INITIAL DECISION MAKING FINDINGS
AMERICA WEST RESOURCES, INC.,	:	AND REVOKING REGISTRATIONS
SONOMA VALLEY BANCORP, and	:	BY DEFAULT
WORLDSTAR ENERGY, CORP.	:	June 16, 2015

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

BEFORE: Carol Fox Foelak, Administrative Law Judge

### SUMMARY

This Initial Decision revokes the registrations of the registered securities of America West Resources, Inc., Sonoma Valley Bancorp, and WorldStar Energy, Corp. (collectively, Respondents). The revocations are based on Respondents' repeated failure to file required periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (Commission).

## I. BACKGROUND

The Commission initiated this proceeding on May 28, 2015, with an Order Instituting Proceedings (OIP), pursuant to Section 12(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act). The OIP alleges that each Respondent is a corporation with a class of securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and that each has repeatedly failed to file with the Commission annual and quarterly reports in compliance with the Exchange Act. Each was served with the OIP in accordance with 17 C.F.R. § 201.141(a)(2)(ii), (iv) by June 1, 2015.<sup>1</sup> To date, none has filed an Answer to the OIP, due ten days after service. *See* OIP at 3; 17 C.F.R. § 201.220(b). Thus, Respondents have failed to answer or otherwise to defend the proceeding within the meaning of 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(a)(2). Accordingly, Respondents are in default, and the undersigned finds that the allegations in the OIP are true as to them. *See* OIP at 3;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each Respondent was served with the OIP by USPS Express Mail delivery or attempted delivery at "the most recent address shown on [its] most recent filing with the Commission." 17 C.F.R. 201.141(a)(2)(ii).

17 C.F.R. §§ 201.155(a), .220(f). Official notice has been taken of the Commission's public official records concerning Respondents, pursuant to 17 C.F.R. § 201.323.

#### II. FINDINGS OF FACT

America West Resources, Inc. (CIK No. 867687),<sup>2</sup> is a Nevada corporation located in Salt Lake City, Utah, with a class of securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(g). The company is delinquent in its periodic filings with the Commission, having not filed any periodic reports since it filed a Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2012, which reported a net loss of \$16,859,828 for the prior six months. As of May 18, 2015, the company's stock (symbol "AWSRQ") was quoted on OTC Link (previously, "Pink Sheets") operated by OTC Markets Group, Inc. (OTC Link), had eight market makers, and was eligible for the "piggyback" exception of Exchange Act Rule 15c2-11(f)(3).

Sonoma Valley Bancorp (CIK No. 1120427) is a California corporation located in Sonoma, California, with a class of securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(g). The company is delinquent in its periodic filings with the Commission, having not filed any periodic reports since it filed a Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010, which reported a net loss of \$721,361 for the prior six months. As of May 18, 2015, the company's stock (symbol "SBNK") was quoted on OTC Link, had six market makers, and was eligible for the "piggyback" exception of Exchange Act Rule 15c2-11(f)(3).

WorldStar Energy, Corp. (CIK No. 1093677), is a revoked Nevada corporation located in Hong Kong with a class of securities registered with the Commission pursuant to Exchange Act Section 12(g). The company is delinquent in its periodic filings with the Commission, having not filed any periodic reports since it filed a Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2011, which reported a net loss of \$18,538 for the prior three months. As of May 18, 2015, the company's stock (symbol "WSTR") was quoted on OTC Link, had three market makers, and was eligible for the "piggyback" exception of Exchange Act Rule 15c2-11(f)(3).

#### III. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

By failing to file required annual and quarterly reports, Respondents violated Exchange Act Section 13(a) and Rules 13a-1 and 13a-13.

## IV. SANCTION

Revocation of the registrations of the registered securities of Respondents will serve the public interest and the protection of investors, pursuant to Section 12(j) of the Exchange Act. Revocation will help ensure that the corporate shell is not later put to an illicit use involving publicly traded securities manipulated to the detriment of market participants. Further, revocation accords with Commission sanction considerations set forth in *Gateway International* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The CIK number is a unique identifier for each corporation in the Commission's EDGAR database. The user can retrieve filings of a corporation by using its CIK number.

*Holdings, Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 53907, 2006 SEC LEXIS 1288, at \*19-20 (May 31, 2006) (citing *Steadman v. SEC*, 603 F.2d 1126, 1139-40 (5th Cir. 1979), *aff'd on other grounds*, 450 U.S. 91 (1981)), and with the sanctions imposed in similar cases in which corporations violated Exchange Act Section 13(a) by failing to file required annual and quarterly reports. *See Cobalis Corp.*, Exchange Act Release No. 64813, 2011 SEC LEXIS 2313 (July 6, 2011); *Nature's Sunshine Prods., Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 59268, 2009 SEC LEXIS 81 (Jan. 21, 2009); *Impax Labs., Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 57864, 2008 SEC LEXIS 1197 (May 23, 2008); *America's Sports Voice, Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 55511, 2007 SEC LEXIS 1241 (Mar. 22, 2007), *recons. denied*, Exchange Act Release No. 55867, 2007 SEC LEXIS 1242 (June 6, 2007); *Eagletech Commc'ns, Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 54095, 2006 SEC LEXIS 1534 (July 5, 2006). Respondents' violations were recurrent, egregious, and deprived the investing public of current and accurate financial information on which to make informed decisions.

Failure to file periodic reports violates a crucial provision of the Exchange Act. The purpose of the periodic reporting requirements is to publicly disclose current, accurate financial information about an issuer so that investors may make informed decisions:

The reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is the primary tool which Congress has fashioned for the protection of investors from negligent, careless, and deliberate misrepresentations in the sale of stock and securities. Congress has extended the reporting requirements even to companies which are "relatively unknown and insubstantial."

SEC v. Beisinger Indus. Corp., 552 F.2d 15, 18 (1st Cir. 1977) (quoting legislative history); accord e-Smart Techs., Inc., Exchange Act Release No. 50514, 2004 SEC LEXIS 2361, at \*8-9 (Oct. 12, 2004). The Commission has warned that "many publicly traded companies that fail to file on a timely basis are 'shell companies' and, as such, attractive vehicles for fraudulent stock manipulation schemes." *e-Smart Techs., Inc.*, 2004 SEC LEXIS 2361, at \*9 n.14.

### V. ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to Section 12(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78l(j):

the REGISTRATION of the registered securities of America West Resources, Inc., is REVOKED;

the REGISTRATION of the registered securities of Sonoma Valley Bancorp is REVOKED; and

the REGISTRATION of the registered securities of WorldStar Energy, Corp., is REVOKED.

This Initial Decision shall become effective in accordance with and subject to the provisions of Rule 360 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 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 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 17 C.F.R. § 201.111. 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. The 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.<sup>3</sup>

Carol Fox Foelak Administrative Law Judge

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A respondent may also file a motion to set aside a default pursuant to 17 C.F.R. § 201.155(b). *See Alchemy Ventures, Inc.*, Exchange Act Release No. 70708, 2013 SEC LEXIS 3459, at \*13-14 & n.28 (Oct. 17, 2013); *see also David Mura*, Exchange Act Release No. 72080, 2014 SEC LEXIS 1530 (May 2, 2014).