### 1 STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 2 **SECURITIES DIVISION** 3 4 IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING Order Number S-07-256-07-SC01 whether there has been a violation 5 of the Securities Act of Washington by: STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AN ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, Wayne K. West; 6 Paul A. Burns; IMPOSE FINES, AND CHARGE Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC; **COSTS** 7 Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc.; WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture, 8 9 Respondents. THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO: 10 Wayne K. West Paul A. Burns 11 Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture 12 13 STATEMENT OF CHARGES 14 Please take notice that the Securities Administrator of the State of Washington has reason to 15 believe that Respondents, Wayne K. West, Paul A. Burns, Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC, 16 Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. and WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture have each 17 violated the Securities Act of Washington and that their violations justify the entry of an order of the 18 Securities Administrator under RCW 21.20.390 against each to cease and desist from such violations. 19 The Securities Administrator finds as follows: 20 21 TENTATIVE FINDINGS OF FACT 22 23 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS 1

STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF

INTENT TO ISSUE AN ORDER TO CEASE AND

DESIST, IMPOSE FINES, AND CHARGE COSTS

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Securities Division

Olympia, WA 98507-9033

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- 1. Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC ("WOGE") is a Texas limited liability company established on January 24, 2006, with its principal place of business at 410 N. Loop 336 West, Conroe, Texas 77301. WOGE is a privately owned development and management company that purportedly specializes in oil and gas exploration in Texas.
- 2. Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. ("WOG") is a Texas corporation established on July 7, 2003. WOG is believed to be currently conducting business at 410 N. Loop 336 West, Conroe, Texas 77301.
- 3. WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture is a partnership formed for the purpose of oil and gas development in Texas. WOGE is the Joint Venture Manager for the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture. WOG is the Joint Venture Operator for the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture.
- 4. Wayne K. West ("West") is the Vice President of Operations of WOGE. West is a resident of Texas.
- 5. Paul A. Burns ("Burns") is the President of both WOGE and WOG. Burns is a resident of Texas.

## Nature of the Offering

6. WOGE offered for sale 25 units in the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture, an oil well drilling project located in Leon County, Texas, for the purpose of raising \$1.25 million dollars. Investors nationwide found out about the investment through radio advertisements, including advertisements broadcast over Washington radio stations. From January 2006 to August 2006, WOGE solicited Washington residents via advertisements on KTTH-770 AM and KVI-570 AM, Seattle-based

radio stations. At least two Washington residents responded to the advertisements and purchased units; at least \$98,000 of the money raised for the venture came from Washington residents. At least one investor was neither accredited nor experienced in oil and gas investments.

- 7. WOGE's pattern of solicitation began with radio advertisements for investments in oil and gas. The advertisements provided a phone number to call for additional information. Upon calling the phone number provided, potential investors had their contact information collected and were told they would receive a telephone call by West, the Vice President of Operations of WOGE. Potential investors were also told an information package would be sent to them. Subsequently, potential investors received an information package from WOGE and a telephone call from West to further solicit the investment.
- 8. The information package sent to potential investors contained a Subscription Agreement, a Private Placement Memorandum dated December 12, 2005, and a booklet containing information about WOGE's management, associates and the geology of the target area. The booklet lists Burns as the President and West as the Vice President of Operations of WOGE.
- 9. According to the Private Placement Memorandum sent to potential investors, 25 units in the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture were being offered for \$49,000 each, with each unit having a 1.68% working interest. The working interest was further defined in the memorandum as an interest in the oil and gas lease.
- 10. According to the Private Placement Memorandum and the booklet, the objective of the venture was to re-enter the Ellison well, a well that had previously been drilled, using a horizontal drilling technique. Using this drilling technique, oil could be produced from wells that had previously been drilled but that had stopped producing much oil due to the limitations of older technology.

- 11. On or about January 2006, two Washington residents heard a radio advertisement on KTTH-770 AM regarding an oil and gas investment. According to the advertisement, with a \$49,000 minimum investment in oil and gas, investors could earn up to \$4,800 per month for the next 30 years. Two Washington residents responded by calling the number provided in the advertisement, and upon calling the number had their contact information collected, were told they would receive a telephone call by West, and were told an information package would be sent to them. Subsequently, two Washington residents received an information package from WOGE.
- 12. West contacted two Washington residents via telephone to further solicit an investment in the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture. During a conversation, West represented that the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture was a turnkey business and there would be no additional funds needed to complete the project, he was confident they would hit oil, and investors would start receiving a return on the investment in one month. West told two Washington residents that there was little risk in this investment because the company had insurance and 150 years of experience.
- 13. West represented to one Washington resident via telephone that oil wells in proximity to the Ellison well were being drilled using the horizontal drilling technique and were producing approximately 400 barrels of oil a day. Thus, the Ellison well was expected to produce approximately 400 barrels of oil a day.
- 14. West represented to one Washington resident via telephone that a \$49,000 initial investment in the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture could result in a profit of 2.5 million dollars within twenty years.
- 15. In February 2006, two Washington residents purchased units in the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture.

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STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AN ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, IMPOSE FINES, AND CHARGE COSTS

In July 2006, one Washington resident traveled to Texas for the purpose of meeting with other investors and visiting the site of the Ellison well. While in Texas, the resident met with West and Burns. West took the resident to visit the drill site.

In November 2006, two Washington residents received a letter from Burns, stating that the attempt to complete the horizontal drilling had failed due to formation integrity. The letter stated that an additional \$10,000 was needed from each investor in order to gain production from a vertical portion of the well. Payment was needed within ten days. One Washington resident decided not to invest additional funds.

## Misrepresentations and Omissions

Respondents failed to provide material information regarding the companies and the 18. WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture, including, but not limited to: financial statements, operational history, risks, full representation of the company history and prior performance information.

19. West's projection that a \$49,000 initial investment could result in a profit of 2.5 million dollars within twenty years was misleading. West failed to provide a reasonable basis for this projection and failed to disclose the limitations on the projection.

20. After May 12, 2006, Respondents' radio advertisements for the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture failed to disclose that Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC a/k/a Wortham Oil & Gas Exploration, Wayne K. West and Paul Burns were Respondents in a Summary Order to Cease and Desist issued by the State of Maryland.

### **Registration Status**

- 21. WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture is currently not registered to sell its securities in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered. In addition, there is no notice of a claim of exemption on file with the Securities Administrator.
- 22. Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC is not currently registered as a broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 23. Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. is not currently registered as a broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 24. Wayne K. West is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.
- 25. Paul A. Burns is not currently registered as a securities salesperson or broker-dealer in the State of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

### Other Actions

- 26. On May 12, 2006, the State of Maryland, Office of the Attorney General, Securities Division, issued a Summary Order to Cease and Desist against Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC a/k/a Wortham Oil & Gas Exploration, Wayne K. West and Paul Burns for the offer and sale of unregistered securities, use of unregistered broker-dealers and/or agents, employment of unregistered agents for the sale of securities, and material misrepresentations or omissions in the sale of securities.
- 27. On September 13, 2007, the State of Colorado, Department of Regulatory Agencies, Division of Securities, issued a Final Cease and Desist Order against Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC, Paul A. Burns and Wayne K. West for the offer and sale of unregistered securities.

Based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact, the following Conclusions of Law are made:

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# CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 28. The offer and/or sale of interests in the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture described above constitutes the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(10) and (12).
- 29. The offer and/or sale of said securities were in violation of RCW 21.20.140 because WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture offering was not registered in the State of Washington.
- 30. The offer and/or sale of said securities were in violation of RCW 21.20.040 because Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC and Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. offered and sold said securities while not registered as broker-dealers in the State of Washington.
- 31. The offer and/or sale of said securities were in violation of RCW 21.20.040 because Paul A. Burns and Wayne K. West offered and sold said securities while not registered as securities salespersons or broker-dealers in the State of Washington.
- 32. The offer and/or sale of the WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture securities were made in violation of RCW 21.20.010 because, as set forth in the Tentative Findings of Fact, Respondents made misstatements of material fact or omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AN ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST

Based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that Respondents, Wayne K. West, Paul A. Burns, Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC, Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. and WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1

Joint Venture, and their agents and employees, shall each cease and desist from violations of RCW 21.20.140, RCW 21.20.040 and RCW 21.20.010.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO IMPOSE FINES

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.395, and based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that the Respondents, Wayne K. West, Paul A. Burns, Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC, Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. and WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture shall each be liable for and pay a fine of \$5,000.

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO CHARGE COSTS

Pursuant to RCW 21.20.390(5), and based upon the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Securities Administrator intends to order that the Respondents, Wayne K. West, Paul A. Burns, Wortham Oil & Gas Enterprises, LLC, Wortham Oil & Gas aka Wortham Realty Inc. and WOGE/WOG Ellison Well #1 Joint Venture shall be liable for and pay the Securities Division the costs, fees and other expenses incurred in the conduct of the investigation of this matter in an amount not less than \$5,000.

### **AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURE**

This Statement of Charges is entered pursuant to the provisions of RCW 21.20.390 and RCW 21.20.395, and is subject to the provisions of RCW 34.05. The Respondents may each make a written request for a hearing as set forth in the NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING accompanying this Statement of Charges.

If a Respondent does not request a hearing, the Securities Administrator intends to adopt the above Tentative Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as final, enter a permanent cease and desist order as to that Respondent, and impose the fines and costs sought.

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