BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF TECHNICAL REGISTRATION In the Matter of: Case No.: P23-013 Robert Edwards CONSENT AGREEMENT Non-Registrant ORDER OF DISCIPLINE Mojave Earth Solutions Non-Registered Firm

Respondent

In the interest of a prompt and judicious resolution of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration ("Board") and consistent with the public interest, statutory requirements, and the responsibilities of the Board, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101 et seq., and A.A.C. R4-30-120(G), the undersigned party, Robert Edwards, Non-Registrant, ("Respondent"), Mojave Earth Solutions, Non-Registrant Firm ("Respondent Firm"), and the Board enter into the following Recitals, Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement") as a final disposition of this matter.

RECITALS

- 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney, or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement with an attorney.
- 2. Respondent understands that he has a right to a public administrative hearing concerning this case. He further acknowledges that at such formal hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Respondent knowingly, voluntarily, and irrevocably waives his right to such an administrative hearing, as well as rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action concerning the matters set forth herein.

- 3. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement shall be irrevocable.
- 4. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement or any part of the agreement may be considered in any future disciplinary action by the Board against him.
- 5. The Consent Agreement, any record prepared in this matter, all investigative materials prepared or received by the Board and all related exhibits and materials, are public records upon acceptance by the Board of this Consent Agreement and may be retained in the Board's files pertaining to this matter.
- 6. Respondent understands this Consent Agreement deals with Board case number P23-013 involving allegations that Respondent engaged in conduct that would subject him to discipline under the Board's statutes and rules. The investigation into these allegations against Respondent shall be concluded upon the Board's adoption of this Consent Agreement.
- 7. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of any other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, express or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.
- 8. Respondent also understands that acceptance of this Consent Agreement does not preclude any other agency, subdivision, or officer of this State from instituting any other civil or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is the subject of this Consent Agreement.
- 9. Respondent acknowledges and agrees that, upon signing this Consent Agreement and returning this document to the Board's Executive Director, he may not revoke his acceptance of the Consent Agreement or make any modifications to the document regardless of whether the Consent Agreement has been signed on behalf of the Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and void unless mutually agreed by the parties in writing.

- 10. This Consent Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board and is effective only when accepted by the Board and signed on behalf of the Board. If the Board does not accept this Consent Agreement, the Board retains its authority to hold a formal administrative hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-128(E). In the event that the Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, except that the parties agree that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or any records relating thereto.
- 11. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that any part of this Consent Agreement is void or otherwise unenforceable, the remainder of the Consent Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- 12. Respondent understands that any violation of this Consent Agreement may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of the registration under A.R.S. § 32-150.
- 13. Respondent agrees that the Board will adopt the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the professions of Engineering and Land Surveying.
- 2. Respondent is not registered with the Board as an Engineer or a Land Surveyor, nor has he ever been.
- 3. Respondent is the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and principal of Respondent Firm; per Respondent's statement and confirmed by Arizona Corporation Commission records.
 - 4. Respondent Firm is not registered with the Board, nor has it ever been.
- 5. On or about July 25, 2022, the Board received a complaint alleging that Respondent and Respondent Firm were advertising the practice of Engineering and Land

Surveying to the public through Respondent Firm's website without registration with the Board.

- 6. On or about August 4, 2022, Board staff reviewed Respondent Firm's public website and found the following:
 - a) Respondent Firm's website indicated that Respondent Firm operates in several states, including Arizona.
 - b) Respondent Firm's website contained a list of offered services which may lead the public to believe Respondent Firm was offering to practice Land Surveying. The list included "site surveying", "topographical surveys", and "drone surveys".
 - c) Respondent Firm's website included statements which may lead the public to believe Respondent Firm was offering to practice Engineering. The statements included "turnkey civil engineering solutions for erosion control" and "our staff of professional engineers, technicians, and operationally qualified contractors provide clients with pipeline exposure remediation and erosion control solutions".
- 7. On or about August 22, 2022, Board staff received a written statement from Respondent in which he indicated that Respondent Firm does not offer, or practice, Engineering or Land Surveying. Respondent clarified that Respondent Firm's clients hire consulting Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, and Respondent Firm works with the client's Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to complete the projects. Respondent indicated that Respondent Firm's website had been revised, removing all text which may have unintentionally mislead the public regarding Respondent Firm's offered services.
- 8. On or about August 26, 2022, Board staff again reviewed Respondent Firm's public website and found that all references to the practice of Engineering and Land Surveying had been removed.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-101, et seq, including A.R.S. § 32-106.02(A).
- 2. The conduct alleged in the Findings of Fact, constitutes grounds for discipline pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-121 and A.R.S. § 32-141, in that Respondent and Respondent Firm practiced or offered to practice a Board regulated profession without firm registration.

<u>ORDER</u>

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board issues the following Order:

- 1. CIVIL PENALTY. Within Ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) by certified check or money order made payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration, according to the provisions of A.R.S. § 32-106.02(A).
- 2. COST OF INVESTIGATION. Within Ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Consent Agreement, Respondent shall pay the cost of investigation of this case to the Board in the amount of Eighty Six Dollars (\$86.00) by certified check or money order made payable to the State of Arizona Board of Technical Registration, according to the provisions of A.R.S. § 32-128(H).
- 3. OBEY ALL LAWS. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, related to the practice of Engineering and Land Surveying in the State of Arizona. The Board shall consider any violation of this paragraph to be a separate violation of the statutes governing the Arizona Board of Technical Registration.
- 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The effective date of this Consent Agreement is the date the Respondent and Board sign the Consent Agreement. If the dates are different, the effective date is the later of the two dates.
- 5. COSTS OF COMPLIANCE. Respondent shall pay all costs associated with complying with this Consent Agreement.

1	6. NONCOMPLIANCE. If Respondent violates this Order in any way or fails
2	to fulfill the requirements of this Order, the Board may seek a Petition for Injunction in
3	accordance with the provisions set forth in A.R.S. § 32-106.01.
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5	ACCEPTED and ORDERED this day of
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7	Lade Alexander
8	Jack Gilmore, L.A., Chairman
9	Arizona State Board of Technical Registration
10	A SOMMOUT REGIONALION
11	Company Assessment at 10 1 Nr. Dog 010
12	Consent Agreement and Order, No. P23-013 accepted this 21 day of October, 2022.
13	Millerand
14	Robert Edwards, on behalf of himself &
15	Mojave Earth Solutions, Respondents
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ORIGINAL filed this _____ day of November, 2022, with: Arizona State Board of Technical Registration 1110 W. Washington, Suite 240 Phoenix, AZ 85007 Robert Edwards 3201 Ranch House Rd. Willow Park, TX 76087 By: Daniel Carthel