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8
9 BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL PROTECTION AND INNOVATION
10 OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

11 In the Matter of:) ORDER BARRING NORBERTAS SINICA
) FROM DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY
12 THE COMMISSIONER OF BUSINESS) SOLICITING PROPERTY OWNERS TO
OVERSIGHT,) ENTER INTO PACE ASSESSMENT
13) CONTRACTS PURSUANT TO FINANCIAL
14 Complainant,) CODE SECTION 22690
)
15 v.)
)
16 NORBERTAS SINICA,)
)
17 Respondent.)
)
18)
19)

20 To: Norbertas Sinica
16255 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 910
21 Encino, California, 91436

22 1. The Commissioner brings this order pursuant to the provisions of California
23 Finance Code 22161, 22690¹.

24 2. The Commissioner is authorized to administer and enforce the provisions of the
25 California Financing Law section 22000 et seq.
26

27 ¹ All further statutory references will be to the California Financial Code, unless otherwise indicated.
28

1 3. Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) is a financing product where
2 homeowners finance certain clean energy projects to their property such as solar panels, water
3 heaters and windows. Homeowners enter into assessment contracts² with public agencies for
4 voluntary contractual assessments imposed on the real property. Payment for the PACE
5 financing is added onto the homeowner’s property tax as a special assessment, to be paid twice
6 over a one year span, and the financing entity obtains a lien on the property. If the homeowner
7 does not pay the special assessment, the financing entity can enforce the lien, including through
8 foreclosure.

9 4. Pursuant to Financial Code sections 22100.5 and 22150 , the Commissioner
10 licenses and regulates PACE program administrators³ in the State of California. A “program
11 administrator” means a person administrating a PACE program on behalf of, and with the written
12 consent of a public agency. (Section 22018.) A PACE solicitor is a person authorized by a
13 program administrator to solicit a property owner to enter into an assessment contract. (Section
14 22017.) A “PACE solicitor agent” means an individual who is employed or retained by, and
15 acts on behalf of, a PACE solicitor to solicit a property owner to enter into an assessment
16 contract. (Section 22017.) (A PACE solicitor agent acting on behalf of Eco Tech will be referred
17 to as “Eco Tech solicitor agent” or “solicitor agent for Eco Tech.”)

18 5. At all relevant time, Eco Technology, Inc. (Eco Tech) is and was a construction
19 contractor licensed in California beginning on August 15, 2017 with the California Contractor’s
20 State License Board, license number 1030029 holding both B-1 (General Building Contractor)
21 and C-35 (Plumbing) classifications with a business address of 16255 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 910,
22 Encino, California, 91436.

23 6. At all relevant times, Norbertas Sinica is the Chief Executive Officer of Eco Tech
24 and enrolled as a solicitor agent for Eco Tech.

25 _____
26 ² Section 22003.5 defines the “Assessment contract” to mean “an agreement entered into between all property
27 owners of record on real property and a public agency in which, for voluntary contractual assessments imposed on
28 the real property, the public agency provides a PACE assessment for the installation of one or more efficiency
improvements on the real property in accordance with a PACE program.

³ Section 22018 defines “Program administrator” to mean a person administering a PACE program on behalf of,
and with the written consent of, a public agency. “Program administrator” does not include a public agency.

1 7. In 2018, Eco Tech entered into contracts with several PACE Administrators to act
2 as a PACE solicitor whereby Eco Tech would solicit homeowners to enter into PACE financing
3 for construction work financed by those particular PACE Administrators.

4 8. In 2018 and 2019, some Eco Tech solicitor agents incorrectly represented that
5 PACE was a “free government” program to some homeowners, creating false emails and phone
6 numbers to sign homeowners up for PACE financing.

7 9. Section 22690(c)(2)(C) provides as follows:

8 The commissioner may, after appropriate notice and opportunity for hearing, by
9 order, censure or suspend for a period not exceeding 12 months, or bar any natural
10 person from directly or indirectly soliciting a property owner to enter into an
assessment contract ...

11 10. On May 27, 2020 the Commissioner served the Notice of Intent to Issue Bar
12 Order to Nobertas Sinica along with supporting pleadings.

13 11. On June 8, 2020, Nobertas Sinica served his Request for Hearing on the Notice of
14 Intent to Issue Bar Order.

15 12. On October 6, 2020 Nobertas Sinica withdrew his Request for Hearing on the
16 Notice of Intent to Issue Bar Order.

17 **NOW GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:**

18 Norbertas Sinica is hereby barred from directly or indirectly soliciting property owners to
19 enter into PACE assessment contracts pursuant to Financial Code section 22690(c)(2)(C). This
20 order and bar is effective immediately

21 Dated: November 2, 2020
22 San Francisco, CA

MANUEL P. ALVAREZ
Commissioner of Financial Protection and Innovation

23
24 By _____
25 Mary Ann Smith
26 Deputy Commissioner
27 Enforcement Division
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