STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SECURITIES DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING Whether there has been a violation of the Securities Act of Washington by:

Order No.: S-23-3542-24-CO01

CONSENT ORDER

Eco, Inc.,

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Respondent.

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the Securities Act of Washington, RCW 21.20, the Securities Division of the Department of Financial Institutions ("Securities Division") and Respondent Eco, Inc. do hereby enter into this Consent Order in settlement of the matters alleged herein. Respondent Eco neither admits nor denies the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law as stated below.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Respondent

1. Eco, Inc., formerly known as Beam Network Inc., ("Eco"), is a Delaware corporation formed on February 28, 2018. Eco is a technology company that previously offered consumers a platform to utilize digital financial products, specifically crypto savings accounts.

Related Entity

2. Wyre Payments Inc. d/b/a Wyre ("Wyre") is a Delaware corporation formed on July 28, 2016. Wyre Payments, Inc. previously offered a blockchain technology-based payment platform to transfer money through global payouts, account onboarding, crypto wallet, and savings solutions. Wyre Payments ceased operations in June of 2023. Wyre Payments served clients in the United States.

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Nature of the Conduct

- 3. Beginning in or around December 2020 and continuing through in or around May 2022 (the "Offering Period"), Eco marketed, promoted, and executed the sale of securities, in the form of Eco-branded, yield-generating digital asset accounts ("Eco Accounts"), facilitated by Wyre, to individuals residing in Washington.
- Eco marketed, promoted, and hosted the platform that sold Eco Accounts to approximately
 Washington residents during the Offering Period.
- 5. The total average monthly balance of all Washington investor-held Eco Accounts during the Offering Period was about \$1 million.
- 6. During the Offering Period, Eco was not registered with the Securities Division in any capacity.
- 7. In 2020, Eco launched an application that prompted investors to earn interest by depositing money (USD) into digital accounts, held by Wyre, where USD was converted to USDC, a US dollar denominated digital currency.
- 8. During the Offering Period, Eco Accounts were custodied by Wyre and earned interest through Wyre's lending out of investor funds.
- 9. The deposit of funds by an investor into their Eco Account was the sole investor undertaking necessary to earn an annual percentage yield ("APY") on their investment.
- 10. During the Offering Period, Wyre set the APY on the Eco Accounts. By agreement, Wyre agreed to split the APY between Eco and Eco Account customers. Eco set the Eco Account customer rate and Wyre remitted the designated interest to Eco Account customers, with the remainder directed to Eco. In other words, Eco received a commission on each of the investments, a portion of the investor's return on investment.

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- 11. Eco published and promoted the Eco Account APY rate directly to customers, advertising that Eco Account holders earned 2.5% APY on their balances, and "up to 5% when you refer friends." Eco marketed Eco Accounts as having yields higher than "high yield" checking accounts at "big banks."
 - 12. Eco described its business model as follows:

"Eco partners with a regulated cryptocurrency custodian + prime lenders. Other large financial institutions frequently borrow USD-denominated cryptocurrencies on a short-term basis from these partners. These institutions pay interest to access your sitting, unused funds (which are held as stable-value, USD-denominated cryptocurrency). So, that is how Eco gives you interest!"

- 13. Eco Accounts were promoted and offered to the public through Eco's website (www.eco.com).
- 14. When individuals opened an Eco Account, they were directed to Wyre's website and had to agree to Wyre's Terms and Conditions. Aspects of Eco's promotion activities of the Eco Account implied Eco, rather than Wyre, was the issuer of the Eco Accounts, including, but not limited to the name of the investment, Eco's description of the Eco Account, the platform from which investors purchased the investment, and certain Eco representatives' press comments regarding Eco Accounts.
- 15. Wyre did not offer the Eco Account on its own website or through any other broker-dealer, but it did offer its savings accounts to other technology companies.
 - 16. Eco was the sole promoter of Eco Accounts.
- 17. After the Offering Period, from May of 2022 until the winding down of Eco, Eco Account yield was paid to investors from Eco corporate funds.

Registration Status

18. Eco is not currently registered as a broker-dealer of securities in the state of Washington and has not previously been so registered.

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

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The offer and/or sale of Eco Accounts described above constitutes the offer and/or sale of a security as defined in RCW 21.20.005(14) and (17).
- 2. Eco acted as a "broker-dealer" in the state of Washington as the term is defined by RCW 21.20.005(1).
- 3. Eco violated RCW 21.20.040(1), the licensee registration section of the Securities Act of Washington, by engaging in broker-dealer activity while not being registered as a broker-dealer in the state of Washington.

Based upon the foregoing and finding it in the public interest:

CONSENT ORDER

IT IS AGREED AND ORDERED that Respondent Eco, and their agents and employees, each shall cease and desist from violating RCW 21.20.040, the registration section of the Securities Act of Washington.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Eco shall be liable for and shall pay a fine of \$18,000.00 on or before the entry of this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED AND ORDERED that Eco shall be liable for and shall pay investigative costs of \$4,800.00 on or before entry of this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that the Securities Division has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Order.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that Respondent Eco entered into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily and with a full understanding of its terms and significance.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED that in consideration of the foregoing, Respondent Eco waives their right to a hearing and to judicial review of this matter pursuant to RCW 21.20.440 and Chapter 34.05 RCW.

CONSENT ORDER

1	WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.
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3	Signed this 2nd day of July 2024.
4	Signed by:
5	Eco, Inc.
6	/s/
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8	Name of signer Andrew Bromberg
9	Title of signerDirector
10	Approved as to form by:
11	/s/
12	Attorney for Eco, Inc.
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CONSENT ORDER

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2	SIGNED and ENTERED this 29 th c	lay of July 2024.
3		/~/
4		/s/
5		William M. Beatty Securities Administrator
6	Approved by:	Presented by:
7	/s/	/s/
8	Brian Guerard Chief of Enforcement	Megan Campbell Financial Legal Examiner
9	Reviewed by:	Financial Legal Examine
10	/s/	
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12	Holly Mack-Kretzler Financial Legal Examiner Supervisor	
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