1		22 Pages
2		THE WAR AND THE WEEK
3		R'ALAKS))
4		MAY 16 2023
5		Billie A. Maggard YAKIMA COUNTY CLERK
6		
7		
8		
9	STATE OF WASHINGTON YAKIMA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT	
10	STATE OF WASHINGTON,	No. 22-2-01708-39
11	Plaintiff,	
12	v.	CONSENT DECREE
13	OSTROM MUSHROOM FARMS, LLC;	
14	and ASELLUS-SUNNYSIDE, LLC,	
15	parent company and sole owner of OSTROM MUSHROOM FARMS, LLC,	
16	Defendants.	
17	I. INTRODU	JCTION
18	1.1. The State of Washington (the "State"), by and through its attorneys, Robert W.
19	Ferguson, Attorney General, and Alfredo González	Benítez, Emily C. Nelson, and Teri Healy,
20	Assistant Attorneys General, filed this action against Ostrom Mushroom Farms, LLC (Ostrom)	
21	on August 17, 2022, to enforce the Washington Consumer Protection Act (CPA) and the	
22	Washington Law Against Discrimination (WLAD).	
23	1.2. Defendant Ostrom is a for profit limited liability company that prior to February	
24	14, 2023, employed approximately two hundred Was	shington workers to grow, harvest, package
25	and ship mushrooms. At all times relevant to this action, Ostrom maintained its principal place	
26		
1	CONSENT DECREE 1	ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

Civil Rights Division 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 464-7744 3

4

of business in Sunnyside, Yakima County, Washington and shipped mushrooms throughout the
 state of Washington.

 On December 12, 2022, the State of Washington filed a First Amended Complaint adding Asellus-Sunnyside, LLC (Asellus-Sunnyside) as a defendant.

1.4. Asellus-Sunnyside is a for profit limited liability company that engages in real
property and agricultural holding investments. Prior to February 14, 2023, Asellus-Sunnyside
owned the real property and improvements at 1111 Midvale Road, Sunnyside, Washington
98944 in which Ostrom operated its business (the "Sunnyside Facility"). As of February 14,
2023, Asellus-Sunnyside was the sole member of Ostrom.

10 1.5. In the First Amended Complaint, the State alleges that Ostrom and Asellus 11 Sunnyside violated the CPA, RCW 19.86.020, by engaging in unfair and deceptive practices in
 12 the course of operating Ostrom's business by misleading actual and prospective domestic pickers
 13 with regard to job eligibility requirements, wages, and availability of employment at the
 14 Sunnyside facility.

1.6. In the First Amended Complaint, the State also alleges that Ostrom and AsellusSunnyside violated the WLAD, RCW 49.60.030, RCW 49.60.180, and RCW 49.60.210 by:

1.6.1. Failing to hire, refusing to hire, or discharging employees because of their sex, citizenship, or immigration status;

19
 1.6.2. Discriminating in the compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of
 20
 20
 21
 21.6.3. Applying more stringent employment eligibility requirements to
 22
 23
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 20
 20
 20
 21
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 20
 20
 20
 20
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 20
 20
 21
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 20
 21
 21
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 20
 21
 21
 21
 22
 23
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 21
 21
 21
 22
 21
 22
 23
 21
 22
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27
 28
 29
 29
 20
 21
 21
 21
 21
 22
 21
 21
 22
 2

1.6.4. Applying mushroom harvest production minimums in a manner that results in discrimination because of sex, citizenship, or immigration status; and

25 26

24

17

18

CONSENT DECREE

2

1.6.5. Retaliating against employees who opposed discrimination and other unfair employment practices.

2 3

4

5

7

1

1.7. Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside deny all of the State's claims.

1.8. On February 14, 2023, while the present action was pending, Ostrom sold certain tangible and intangible assets, properties and rights, which related to or were used in connection 6 with the operation of its business, and Asellus-Sunnyside sold its interests in the Sunnyside Facility to Greenwood Mushroom Sunnyside IA, LLC (Greenwood Mushroom). As of February 8 15, 2023, Ostrom ceased operating its business in the Sunnyside Facility, does not own any other 9 operating business, and has represented to the State that it intends to wind up its business and 10 financial affairs pursuant to applicable law.

11 1.9. The State, Ostrom, and Asellus-Sunnyside have agreed to resolve the allegations 12 made by the State without the need for additional investigation or litigation and without the need 13 for trial or adjudication of any issue of law or fact. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be 14 deemed an admission by Ostrom or Asellus-Sunnyside of violation of any law, rule or regulation, 15 including without limitation, any violation of the CPA or WLAD for any purpose, or the 16 existence or non-existence of any issue or fact. By entering into this Consent Decree, Ostrom 17 and Asellus-Sunnyside do not admit the allegations in the First Amended Complaint other than 18 those needed to establish the jurisdiction of this Court.

19 1.10. Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside waive any right they may have to appeal from this 20 Consent Decree, provided however, that Defendants do not waive any rights they may have in 21 connection with any future claims or enforcement actions brought by the State or any other 22 person or entity.

23 1.11. Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside agree they will not oppose entry of this Consent 24 Decree on the ground that it fails to comply with Rule 65(d) of the Superior Court Civil Rules 25 and hereby waives any objection based thereon.

3

26

CONSENT DECREE

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED as follows: 1 2 II. **INJUNCTIONS** 3 2.1. The State accepts Greenwood Mushroom's entry into the Assurance of 4 Discontinuance entered between the State and Greenwood Mushroom, attached hereto as 5 Exhibit A, as partial resolution of the State's allegations in this matter. 6 2.2. As of February 15, 2023, Ostrom ceased operating its business in the Sunnyside 7 Facility, does not own any other operating business, and has represented to the State that it 8 intends to wind up its business and financial affairs pursuant to applicable law. In the event 9 Ostrom resumes operating a business in the State of Washington (and/or Asellus-Sunnyside 10 obtains an ownership interest in real property or improvements for the purpose of operating a 11 business thereon), each and every provision of the Assurance of Discontinuance attached hereto 12 as Exhibit A shall immediately apply to Ostrom and/or Asellus-Sunnyside. 13 2.3. Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside shall provide written notice to the State at least 14 thirty (30) days prior to Ostrom resuming operating a business in the State of Washington. 15 2.4. Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside shall notify the State at least thirty (30) days prior 16 to any change to the identity of the corporate entity responsible for compliance obligations 17 arising under this Consent Decree, including but not limited to dissolution, assignment, sale, 18 merger, or other action that would result in the emergence of a successor corporation; or the 19 creation or dissolution of a subsidiary, parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices 20 subject to this order. 21 2.5. This Consent Decree shall become effective on the date that it is entered by the Court 22 (the "Effective Date"). 23 III. PAYMENT BY OSTROM/ASELLUS-SUNNYSIDE

3.1. Within fourteen (14) days of the Effective Date, Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside
 agree to pay \$3,400,000 to the Office of the Attorney General. This money shall be referred to
 as the "Settlement Fund," and will be used for damages, restitution, equitable relief for persons
 CONSENT DECREE
 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON Civil Rights Division

800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 464-7744 aggrieved by Ostrom and/or Asellus-Sunnyside's actions, recovery of fees and costs incurred by
 counsel for the State in investigating and prosecuting this action, future monitoring and
 enforcement of this Consent Decree, the costs of administering the Settlement Fund, and any
 lawful purpose in the discharge of the Attorney General's duties at the sole discretion of the
 Attorney General.

6

7

3.2. The payment shall be made by wire transfer. The Office of the Attorney General shall provide instructions for the wire transfer within seven (7) days of the Effective Date.

8 3.3. The Office of the Attorney General will make reasonable efforts to locate 9 individuals who may be entitled to payment from the Settlement Fund. To assist the Office of 10 the Attorney General with its efforts to locate individuals who it believes may be entitled to 11 payment from the Settlement Fund, for a period of twelve (12) months following the Effective 12 Date, Ostrom will through its counsel, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, and upon reasonable request 13 from the Office of the Attorney General, make available to representatives of the Office of the 14 Attorney General at Ostrom's counsel's office in Seattle, hard copies of employee files 15 (excluding information protected from disclosure by law) for the purpose of obtaining additional contact information for former employees of Ostrom, within forty-five (45) days of such request 16 17 by the Office of the Attorney General.

3.4. The monies paid by Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside into the Settlement Fund shall
be in full and final satisfaction of any and all obligations of Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside, and
their respective, members, officers, managers, representatives, and employees, to the State
arising out of or related to claims and causes of action that were or could have been asserted in
the above-captioned case.

23

IV. DURATION AND ENFORCEMENT

5

4.1. This Consent Decree shall be in effect for a period of three (3) years from the
Effective Date. The Court shall retain jurisdiction for the duration of this Consent Decree to
enforce its terms.

CONSENT DECREE

1 4.2. The State may move the Court to enforce the Consent Decree or to extend its 2 duration in the event of noncompliance, whether intentional or not, with any of its terms; or if 3 any event described in paragraph 2.3 occurs, or if it believes the interests of justice so require, 4 and Ostrom and/or Asellus-Sunnyside may object to such request by the State.

5 4.3. Violation of any of the terms of this Consent Decree shall constitute a violation of an injunction for which civil penalties of up to \$25,000 per violation may be sought by the 6 7 State pursuant to RCW 19.86.140, in addition to such other remedies as may be provided by law, 8 including the imposition by the Court of injunctions, restitution, civil penalties, and costs, 9 including reasonable attorneys' fees.

10

11

V. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

5.1. Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside acknowledge and agree that no other promises, 12 representations, or agreements of any nature have been made or entered into by the parties. The 13 parties further acknowledge that this Consent Decree constitutes a single and entire agreement 14 that is not severable or divisible, except that if any provisions herein are found to be legally 15 insufficient or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

16 5.2. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to limit or bar any other 17 governmental entity or person from pursuing other available remedies against Ostrom, Asellus-18 Sunnyside, or any other person.

19 5.3. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed an admission by Ostrom or 20 Asellus-Sunnyside of violation of any law, rule or regulation, including without limitation, any 21 violation of the CPA or WLAD for any purpose, or the existence or non-existence of any issue 22 or fact.

23 5.4. The parties agree that, as of the date of the entry of this Consent Decree, litigation is not "reasonably foreseeable" concerning the matters described above. To the extent that either 24 25 party previously implemented a litigation hold to preserve documents, electronically stored 26 information (ESI), or things related to the matters described above, the party is no longer required ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON CONSENT DECREE

1	to maintain such litigation hold. Nothing in this paragraph relieves either party of any other	
2	obligations imposed by this Consent Decree.	
3	5.5. All communications related to this Consent Decree shall be directed as follows:	
4	If to the State:	
5	Office of the Attorney General,	
6	Attention: Wing Luke Civil Rights Division, 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000	
7	Seattle, WA 98014-3188.	
8	If to Ostrom and/or Asellus-Sunnyside:	
9	Ostrom Mushroom Farms, LLC Asellus-Sunnyside LLC c/o Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	
10	920 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300 Seattle, Washington 98104	
11	Attn: Ragan Powers, Mark Bartlett	
12		
13	5.6. The Court's entry of this Consent Decree shall operate to dismiss this case and to	
14	vacate the deadlines contained in the Case Scheduling Order and Order for Trial entered by the	
15	Court on November 7, 2022.	
16		
17	DATED this $\frac{16}{16}$ day of $\frac{16}{16}$ day of $\frac{16}{16}$ 2023.	
18	Court Commissioner	
19	Superior Court Judge	
20		
21		
22		
23 24		
24 25		
25 26		
20	CONSENT DECREE 7 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON Civil Rights Division 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 464-7744	

1	Presented by:
2	ROBERT W. FERGUSON
3	Attorney General
5	M
4	A
5	Alfredo González Benítez, WSBA #54364
	Emily C. Nelson, WSBA #48440
6	Teri Healy, WSBA # 60367 Assistant Attorneys General
7	Wing Luke Civil Rights Division
8	Office of the Attorney General
	800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
9	Seattle, WA 98104
10	(206) 713-8757 Alfredo.GonzalezBenitez@atg.wa.gov
	Emily.Nelson@atg.wa.gov
11	Teri.Healy@atg.wa.gov
12	Attenness for Divisitiff State of Washington
13	Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Washington
14	Agreed to and approved for entry by: DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE
15	DAVIS WRIGHT TREIVIAINE
16	Mark Bartlett
10	MARK BARILETT, WSBA #15673
17	KATHRYN S. ROSEN, WSBA #29465
18	RAGAN L. POWERS, WSBA #11935
	ARTHUR SIMPSON, WSBA #44479
19	DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE 920 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300
20	Seattle, Washington 98104-1610
21	206-622-3150
21	markbartlett@dwt.com
22	katierosen@dwt.com
23	raganpowers@dwt.com arthursimpson@dwt.com
24	Attorneys for the Defendants
25	Ostrom Mushroom Farms, LLC and Asellus-Sunnyside, LLC
26	

CONSENT DECREE

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON Civil Rights Division 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 464-7744

8

1	GORDON REES SCHULLY MANSUKHA	NI, LLP	
2	Red 3000		
3	SARAH N. 1 UKNEK, WSBA #37748 ROBERT L. GILLETTE, II, WSBA #44212		
4	struner@grsm.com		
5	rgillette@grsm.com	·	
6	Attorneys for the Defendant Ostrom Mushroom Farms, LLC	3 6 4	
7	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
8			
9			
10			
11			
12	a sa		
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
	2	¢-	
24			
25			
26			
	CONSENT DECREE	9	ATTORNEY GEN Civil F

EXHIBIT A

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8	STATE OF WASHINGTON YAKIMA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT	
9	STATE OF WASHINGTON, NO.	
10	Plaintiff,	
11	v. ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE	
12	GREENWOOD MUSHROOM	
13	SUNNYSIDE IA, LLC,	
14	Defendant.	
15		
16	The State of Washington, by and through its attorneys, Robert W. Ferguson, Attorney	
17	General, Alfredo González Benítez, Emily C. Nelson, and Teri Healy, Assistant Attorneys	
18	General, accepts this Assurance of Discontinuance from Greenwood Mushroom Sunnyside IA,	
19	LLC (Greenwood Mushroom), pursuant to RCW 19.86.100. All communications related to this	
20	Assurance of Discontinuance may be directed to the Wing Luke Civil Rights Division, Office of	
21	the Attorney General, 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104.	
22	I. INVESTIGATION AND RELATED PROCEEDING	
23	1.1. In August 2022, the State of Washington filed an action against Ostrom	
24	Mushroom Farms, LLC (Ostrom) to enforce the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86 (CPA),	
25	and the Washington Law Against Discrimination, RCW 49.60 (WLAD). See Complaint in State	
26		
	ASSURANCE OF 1 ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON	

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

of Washington v. Ostrom Mushroom Farms, LLC, et al., No. 22-2-01708-39 (Yakima Sup. Ct.,
 Aug. 17, 2022).

1.2. In December 2022, the State filed a First Amended Complaint adding Asellus-Sunnyside, LLC (Asellus-Sunnyside) as a defendant. *See* First Amended Complaint in *State v*. *Ostrom et al.*, No. 22-2-01708-39 (Yakima Co. Sup. Ct., Dec. 12, 2022).

In its action, the State alleged that between approximately January 2021 and
December 2022, Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside engaged in unfair practices in trade or
commerce in violation of the CPA, RCW 19.86.020, and engaged in unfair and discriminatory
employment practices in violation of the WLAD, RCW 49.60.030, .180, and .210, through their
operation of the companies' mushroom farming, packaging, and shipping facility, located at
1111 Midvale Road, Sunnyside, Washington 98944 (Sunnyside Facility).

12 1.4. On February 14, 2023, while the State's action against Ostrom and Asellus13 Sunnyside was still pending, Greenwood Mushroom purchased certain tangible and intangible
14 assets, properties, and rights which related to or were used in connection with the Sunnyside
15 Facility. Greenwood Mushroom is an independent business unaffiliated with Ostrom and
16 Asellus-Sunnyside.

17 1.5. Greenwood Mushroom is a for-profit business that owns and operates its business
18 at the Sunnyside Facility. Greenwood Mushroom employs eight or more persons and is an
19 "employer" for purposes of RCW 49.60.040(11).

20

21

22

23

24

3

4

5

1.6. Greenwood Mushroom's principal place of business is Sunnyside, Washington.
1.7. Following Greenwood Mushroom's purchase of the Sunnyside Facility, the parties voluntarily agree to enter this Assurance of Discontinuance, without further proceedings, to strengthen Greenwood Mushroom's commitment to fair trade and commerce practices and existing prohibitions against discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

25 26

> ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

2

On the date of entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance, the State also resolves 1 1.8. 2 the allegations in its First Amended Complaint against Ostrom and Asellus-Sunnyside in a 3 Consent Decree filed in this Court under Cause No. 22-2-01708-39. 4 П. ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE 5 2.1. The AGO deems and Greenwood Mushroom acknowledges the following 6 constitute unfair and discriminatory employment practices in violation of the CPA and the 7 WLAD: 8 2.1.1. Misrepresenting to current and prospective employees the terms and 9 conditions of employment, including job eligibility requirements, wages, and the 10 availability of work; 11 2.1.2. Applying more stringent employment eligibility requirements to 12 prospective domestic employees than to employees recruited through the H-2A 13 Temporary Agricultural Worker Program; 14 2.1.3. Failing to hire, refusing to hire, or discharging employees on the basis of 15 sex, citizenship, immigration status, or any other protected class under the 16 WLAD; 17 2.1.4. Discriminating in the terms and conditions of employment on the basis of 18 sex, citizenship, or immigration status, or any other protected class under the 19 WLAD; and 20 2.1.5. Retaliating against employees who engage in protected activity under the 21 WLAD. 22 2.2. Greenwood Mushroom agrees not to engage in the unfair practices described in 23 paragraph 2.1, which the State alleged against Ostrom and Asellus. 24 2.3. Greenwood Mushroom understands and agrees that this Assurance of 25 Discontinuance applies to Greenwood Mushroom and its principals, officers, agents, managers, 26

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

general managers, employees, representatives, successors, and assigns, while acting personally 1 2 or through any corporation or other business entity. 3 III. NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY 4 3.1. Within sixty (60) days of entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance, Greenwood 5 Mushroom shall: 6 3.1.1. Adopt policies against unlawful harassment, discrimination, and 7 retaliation ("Nondiscrimination Policy") for all employees. Greenwood 8 Mushroom shall provide the AGO with the opportunity to review and comment 9 on the Nondiscrimination Policy prior to its adoption. The Nondiscrimination 10 Policy shall include the workplace complaint and workplace investigation 11 procedures described in paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4. Greenwood Mushroom will 12 make the Nondiscrimination Policy available in English and Spanish. 13 3.1.2. Distribute a copy of this Assurance of Discontinuance and the 14 Nondiscrimination Policy to all principals, managers, general managers, 15 executives, supervisors, and officers. Greenwood Mushroom shall secure a 16 signed statement, in the form of Appendix A attached hereto, from each 17 individual listed in this paragraph acknowledging that they have received and 18 read the Assurance of Discontinuance and Nondiscrimination Policy and agree to 19 abide by both documents. Greenwood Mushroom shall submit copies of the 20 signed statements, in one batch, to the AGO within sixty (60) days of entry of this 21 Assurance of Discontinuance. 22 3.2. Greenwood Mushroom shall distribute English and Spanish versions of the 23 Nondiscrimination Policy to every current employee within sixty (60) days of the filing of this 24 Assurance of Discontinuance. Thereafter, and for the duration of this Assurance of

26 Nondiscrimination Policy in English and Spanish within ten (10) days of the employee beginning

Discontinuance, Greenwood Mushroom shall provide all new employees with a copy of the

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

25

work for Greenwood Mushroom. Within thirty (30) days, and for the duration of this Assurance
 of Discontinuance, Greenwood Mushroom will post in a conspicuous place at the Sunnyside
 Facility, in a location where Greenwood Mushroom habitually posts employee announcements,
 an English and Spanish notice of workers' rights to be free from discrimination in the workplace.

5 3.3. The Nondiscrimination Policy shall include workplace complaint procedures for reporting harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. The procedures shall: 1) provide clear 6 7 instructions to employees about where and how to make a complaint in writing, by phone, or in 8 person, including providing names, locations, addresses, and phone numbers; 2) allow 9 complaints to be submitted verbally or in writing in the preferred language of the employee, and 10 for verbal complaints, Greenwood Mushroom may request that the complaint be reduced to 11 writing, including by offering the complainant assistance from Greenwood's Human Resources 12 (or from the complainant's immediate supervisor if the complainant or complainee are relatives, 13 personal friends, or otherwise have a close relationship with the Human Resources employee 14 who would normally assist) to document the complaint; 3) require Greenwood Mushroom to 15 provide interpretation for the complaining employee by a neutral interpreter or translator if the 16 employee so requests (For the avoidance of doubt, "neutral interpreter or translator" means any 17 person other than the complainee, witnesses involved in the complaint, manager, or any person 18 who is a relative, personal friend, or otherwise has a close relationship with the complainant or 19 complainee, and who speaks the language at a professional working proficiency.); 4) provide a 20 method for employees to make anonymous complaints of harassment, discrimination or 21 retaliation via voicemail or written complaint; and 5) require that all individuals who receive 22 complaints of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation must report such complaint promptly to Greenwood's Human Resources . The procedures shall also include a statement from Greenwood 23 24 Mushroom owners and/or management encouraging employees to report complaints of 25 harassment, discrimination, and retaliation, and reiterating the prohibition against such conduct.

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

26

1 3.4. The Nondiscrimination Policy shall include a procedure to ensure fair and 2 competent investigations of complaints of harassment, discrimination, and retaliation. The 3 procedures shall, at a minimum, include requirements that: 1) Greenwood Mushroom will begin 4 the investigation of a complaint of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation within five (5) 5 business days after Greenwood's Human Resources receives the complaint; 2) Greenwood Mushroom will take prompt corrective action to protect the complainant from any ongoing 6 7 harassment, discrimination, or retaliation during the pendency of the investigation; 3) all 8 investigations will be conducted by a Greenwood Human Resources employee who has received 9 training on how to conduct workplace investigations for complaints of harassment, 10 discrimination, and retaliation within the prior year; 4) interviews of the complainant, 11 complainee, and witnesses will be conducted in a private room at the Sunnyside Facility; 12 5) Greenwood Mushroom will provide interpretation as necessary for all interviews by a neutral 13 and qualified interpreter (as defined above); 6) identities of complaints and witness, and the facts 14 of the complaint, will be kept confidential to the extent possible; 7) the complainee will be 15 instructed that he or she must refrain from any action that might dissuade a potential witness from cooperating with any investigation; 8) the complainant and witnesses will not suffer 16 17 retaliatory actions by Greenwood Mushroom, including, but not limited to, termination or 18 reduction in pay or hours; and 9) Greenwood Mushroom will determine appropriate disciplinary action for any employee found to have engaged in harassment, discrimination, or retaliation. 19

20

IV. TRAINING

4.1. Within three (3) months of entry of this Assurance of Discontinuance,
Greenwood Mushroom shall provide a training to all executives, managers, general managers,
and anyone with supervisory or decision-making authority at the Sunnyside Facility
(collectively, Managers) regarding their obligations under the CPA and the WLAD. Subsequent
trainings for all Managers at the Sunnyside Facility shall take place annually thereafter, for the
duration of this Assurance of Discontinuance.

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

6

4.2. The trainings shall be conducted by an independent third party regularly engaged in the business of providing workplace training courses. Greenwood Mushroom shall provide the AGO with thirty (30) days' notice of the party selected to provide training. Should the AGO determine that the party is not qualified, the AGO will notify Greenwood Mushroom within fourteen (14) days' receipt of the notice of trainer selection.

4.3. The purpose of the training will be to educate Managers on unfair or deceptive
job advertisements and recruiting practices; the definitions of harassment, discrimination, and
retaliation; examples of conduct that constitute harassment, discrimination, and retaliation;
appropriate responses to complaints of such conduct; and the rights and responsibilities of
Managers and employees when a complaint of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation is made.
Greenwood Mushroom shall bear any expenses associated with these trainings.

4.4. Greenwood Mushroom shall maintain a record of the attendees at all trainings
described in paragraph 4.1, and for each attendee: (1) the attendee's name, (2) date of attendance,
(3) name of the course, and (4) name of the instructor. Copies of these records shall be provided
with the Annual Compliance Reports described in paragraph 5.2.1.

4.5. Greenwood Mushroom shall provide training to all current employees about the
terms of the Nondiscrimination Policy within sixty (60) days of entry of this Assurance of
Discontinuance, and the process for reporting discrimination at work, and shall train all new
employees on the same upon their beginning work for Greenwood Mushroom.

20

24

25

26

1

2

3

4

5

V. RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

5.1. For the duration of this Assurance of Discontinuance, Greenwood Mushroom
shall preserve all records related to its obligations under this Assurance of Discontinuance in a
centralized location, whether in paper or electronic form, that relate to the following:

5.1.1. Any records relating to recruitment of domestic workers and any applications submitted by Greenwood Mushroom to participate in the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Worker Program.

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

7

1	5.1.2. Records related to hiring, discipline, suspension, and/or termination of	
2	workers at the Sunnyside Facility, including job applications, interview notes,	
3	employee files, disciplinary records, and records of termination.	
4	5.1.3. Records related to any complaints regarding discrimination, harassment,	
5	retaliation, or violations of the Consumer Protection Act, made by workers related	
6	to their employment.	
7	5.2. For a period of three (3) years following entry of this Assurance of	
8	Discontinuance, Greenwood Mushroom shall provide the AGO with:	
9	5.2.1. Annual Compliance Reports, on the yearly anniversary of this Assurance	
10	of Discontinuance, which shall (1) identify and describe any and all changes to	
11	Greenwood Mushrooms' discrimination policies and/or practices, and (2) provide	
12	a copy of the training materials used and records of attendance for all trainings	
13	held pursuant to paragraph 4.1.	
14	5.2.2. Records of any complaint(s) by workers as described in paragraph 5.1.3.	
15	5.2.3. Records of any application(s) to the H-2A Temporary Agricultural	
16	Worker Program, as well as records of any decisions regarding such	
17	application(s).	
18	5.3. Upon reasonable notice to Greenwood Mushroom, representatives of the AGO	
19	shall be permitted to access, inspect, and/or copy all records maintained by Greenwood	
20	Mushroom pursuant to paragraph 5.1.	
21	5.4. Greenwood Mushroom shall notify the State at least thirty (30) days prior to any	
22	change in control of Greenwood Mushroom that would change the identity of the corporate entity	
23	responsible for compliance obligations arising under this Assurance of Discontinuance,	
24	including but not limited to dissolution, assignment, sale, merger, or other action that would	
25	result in the emergence of a successor corporation; or the creation or dissolution of a subsidiary,	
26		

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

parent, or affiliate that engages in any acts or practices subject to this Assurance of
 Discontinuance.

3 4

5

6

VI. ENTRY AND DURATION

6.1. This Assurance of Discontinuance shall be in effect for a period of three (3) years from the date of its entry. The Court shall retain jurisdiction for the duration of this Assurance of Discontinuance to enforce its terms.

7 6.2. Greenwood Mushroom and the AGO agree that no provision of the Assurance of 8 Discontinuance operates as a penalty, forfeiture, or punishment under the laws of Washington. 9 This Assurance of Discontinuance shall not be considered an admission of violation for any 10 purposes, but failure to comply with this Assurance of Discontinuance shall be prima facie evidence 11 of violations of RCW 19.86.020 for which the AGO may seek injunctive relief, restitution, civil 12 penalties of up to \$7,500 per violation, plus applicable enhancements, and costs, including 13 reasonable attorneys' fees. Notwithstanding this paragraph, Greenwood Mushroom does not 14 waive its right to appeal any orders or judgments arising from any enforcement proceedings 15 related to this Assurance of Discontinuance.

16

VII. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

7.1. Greenwood Mushroom acknowledges and agrees that no other promises,
representations, or agreements of any nature have been made or entered into by the parties. The
parties further acknowledge that this Assurance of Discontinuance constitutes a single and entire
agreement that is not severable or divisible, except that if any provisions herein are found to be
legally insufficient or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and
effect.

7.2. The parties agree that as of the date of the entry of this Assurance of
Discontinuance, litigation is not "reasonably foreseeable" concerning the matters described
above. To the extent that either party previously implemented a litigation hold to preserve
documents, electronically stored information ("ESI"), or things related to the matters described

9

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

1	above, the party is no longer required to maintain such litigation hold. Nothing in this paragraph	
2	relieves either party of any other obligations imposed by this Assurance of Discontinuance.	
3	7.3. Nothing in this Assurance of Discontinuance shall be construed to limit or bar	
4	any other governmental entity or person from pursuing other available legal remedies against	
5	Greenwood Mushroom. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs arising from or	
6	related to the negotiation and execution of this Assurance of Discontinuance, unless otherwis	
7	explicitly provided herein.	
8	DATED this day of, 2023.	
9		
10		
11	Superior Court Judge	
12		
13		
14	Presented by:	
15	ROBERT W. FERGUSON	
	Attorney General	
16	Ale	
17	ALFREDO GONZÁLEZ BENÍTEZ, WSBA #54364	
18	EMILY C. NELSON, WSBA #48440	
19	TERI HEALY, WSBA # 60367 Assistant Attorneys General	
20	Wing Luke Civil Rights Division	
21	Office of the Attorney General 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000	
22	Seattle, WA 98104 Tel: (206) 713-8757	
23	Alfredo.GonzalezBenitez@atg.wa.gov	
24	Emily.Nelson@atg.wa.gov Teri.Healy@atg.wa.gov	
25	Attorneys for Plaintiff State of Washington	
26		
20		

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE

1 Agreed to and approved for entry by: 2 3 4 AMANDA A. SONNEBORN 5 King & Spalding LLP 110 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 3800 6 Chicago, IL 60606 Tel: (312) 764 6940 7 Fax: (312) 995-6330 8 asonneborn@kslaw.com 9 Granc Fively 10 11 12 LEAH LIVELY, WSBA #45889 Buchalter P.C. 13 1420 5th Avenue, Suite 3100 Seattle, WA 98101 14 Tel: (503) 226-1191 15 Fax: (206) 319-7052 llively@buchalter.com 16 Attorneys for Greenwood Mushroom 17 Sunnyside IA, LLC 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

ASSURANCE OF

DISCONTINUANCE

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON Civil Rights Division 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 464-7744

11

1	<u>APPENDIX A</u> ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE	
2	AND NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY	
3	I acknowledge that on	, 20, I was provided copies of the Assurance
4	of Discontinuance entered by Yakima Count	y Superior Court in <i>State v. Greenwood Mushroom</i> oom's Nondiscrimination Policy. I have read and
5	understand these documents and have had	my questions about these documents answered. I
6	understand my legal responsibilities and shal	ll comply with those responsibilities.
7		
8		
9		Signature
10		
11		Print Name
12		
13		Job Title/Position
14		
15		Date
16		
17		
18	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		

ASSURANCE OF DISCONTINUANCE