

## **Alberta Securities Commission Policy 51-601**

### **Reporting Issuers List**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Effective September 15, 2006, the Alberta Securities Commission (ASC) replaced its weekly list of defaulting reporting issuers and related certificates with a list of reporting issuers that is updated each business day. Interested persons can refer to the list of reporting issuers to determine whether an Alberta reporting issuer has been noted in default of certain requirements of Alberta securities laws or its securities are the subject of a general cease trade order issued by the ASC.

#### **2. List of Reporting Issuers**

- 2.1 The ASC maintains a list of reporting issuers that identifies:
- (a) issuers that are reporting issuers in Alberta;
  - (b) Alberta reporting issuers that have been noted in default of certain requirements of Alberta securities laws; and
  - (c) Alberta reporting issuers whose securities are the subject of a general cease trade order by the ASC.
- 2.2 The list of reporting issuers is available on the ASC website ([www.albertasecurities.com](http://www.albertasecurities.com)) under “Company Disclosure and Compliance” - “Reporting Issuers”. The list is compiled as of the close of business each business day and appears on the ASC website by 11:00 am the following business day.
- 2.3 Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this list. A reporting issuer that does not appear on this list or that has inappropriately been noted in default should contact the ASC promptly.

#### **3. Basis for Noting in Default**

- 3.1 The list of reporting issuers identifies those instances in which a reporting issuer has been noted in default for certain compliance deficiencies.
- 3.2 The absence of a default notation on the list of reporting issuers does not ensure that the reporting issuer is in full compliance with all of its obligations under Alberta securities laws because, amongst other things:
- (a) not all types of deficiency may lead to a default notation;

- (b) the list will not reflect undetected deficiencies;
- (c) the list will not reflect deficiencies which, though detected, have not yet resulted in a reporting issuer being noted in default as the issuer may be given advance notice of the deficiency and a time-limited opportunity to remedy the deficiency before being noted in default.

3.3 The ASC will generally consider a reporting issuer to be in default if the issuer:

- (a) does not file a continuous disclosure document required by Alberta securities laws;
- (b) makes disclosure that does not comply with Alberta securities laws; or
- (c) does not pay a fee required by Alberta securities laws.

3.4 Appendix A to this Policy identifies significant deficiencies in compliance with Alberta Securities laws that, when detected and determined to be deficient by ASC staff, may result in the reporting issuer being noted in default on the list of reporting issuers. Appendix A will be updated periodically.

3.5 Section 1 of Appendix A sets out a list of failures to file significant continuous disclosure that will, when detected and determined to be a default by ASC staff, generally result in the reporting issuer being noted in default on the list of reporting issuers without prior notification.

3.6 Section 2 of Appendix A describes significant deficiencies in the content of a required continuous disclosure filing.

Before noting a reporting issuer in default on the list of reporting issuers for a deficiency contemplated in section 2 of Appendix A, ASC staff will notify a reporting issuer of its intention to do so. The issuer will have the opportunity, within a specified time period, either to remedy the deficiency or to satisfy ASC staff that there was no deficiency.

If the issuer remedies the deficiency or satisfies ASC staff that there was no deficiency, ASC staff will take no further action and the issuer will not be noted in default on the list of reporting issuers.

If the issuer acknowledges the deficiency but does not remedy it within the specified period, ASC staff will note the issuer in default on the list of reporting issuers.

If the issuer and ASC staff disagree as to whether the identified disclosure is deficient, the issuer will not be noted in default on that particular ground on the list of reporting issuers. That does not preclude ASC staff from seeking a hearing under section 198 of the *Securities Act* for an order under clause (h) of subsection 198(1) of the *Securities Act* that the issuer's continuous disclosure record be amended to address the issues identified or any other appropriate order under the *Securities Act*.

- 3.7 Section 3 of Appendix A identifies the failure to pay a fee required under Alberta securities laws as a ground of default. Such a default will also generally result in the reporting issuer being noted in default on the list of reporting issuers without prior notification.
- 3.8 A notation of default on one or more of the specific grounds listed in Appendix A will be identified on the list of reporting issuers by a code referring to the item number in Appendix A.
- 3.9 Once the reporting issuer has addressed to the satisfaction of ASC staff a deficiency for which it has been noted in default, ASC staff will no longer consider the reporting issuer to be in default on that ground. The corresponding notation of the default will be removed from the list of reporting issuers when the website list is updated the next business day.

#### **4. Cease Trade Orders**

- 4.1 The list of reporting issuers will identify certain cease trade orders that prohibit all trading in Alberta of securities of a reporting issuer.
- 4.2 If an order has been issued under subsection 33.1(1), 198(1) or 198(2) of the *Securities Act* prohibiting all trading in securities or specified securities of a reporting issuer, the existence of a cease trade order will be noted on the list of reporting issuers beside the name of the issuer without prior notification.
- 4.3 Other orders that may prohibit or restrict trading in Alberta in the securities of the reporting issuer by specified persons or companies will not appear on the list of reporting issuers. To determine whether a person or company is the subject of this other type of cease trade order (for example, a cease trade order issued against management or insiders of a reporting issuer), consult the ASC website (at [www.albertasecurities.com](http://www.albertasecurities.com)) using the “Search Enforcement Orders” tool under “Enforcement” - “Enforcement Orders”. Because a management and insider cease trade order is directed at the management and insiders of the reporting issuer and not the securities of the reporting issuer, this type of cease trade order is not noted on the list of reporting issuers against the name of the issuer.

#### **5. Filing Consideration For Reporting Issuers**

- 5.1 A reporting issuer may be noted in default if it fails to file a required document within the prescribed time period. National Instrument 13-101 *System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval* (the SEDAR instrument) provides for the electronic transmission of documents to the ASC for filing. The date of filing a document in electronic format for the purpose of Alberta securities laws is determined in accordance with section 2.7 of the SEDAR instrument. Reporting issuers should review the provisions of the SEDAR instrument to determine applicable filing requirements.
- 5.2 A reporting issuer is responsible for creating and maintaining a current filer profile under the SEDAR instrument and a current issuer profile supplement under National Instrument

55-102 *System for Electronic Disclosure by Insiders* (SEDI). Reporting issuers should review requirements for filing a filer profile under the SEDAR instrument, an issuer profile supplement under SEDI and any amendments to the filer profile or issuer profile supplement. Reporting issuers are reminded that the ASC relies on the contact information in the issuer's SEDAR profile to serve any notices or orders issued under section 33.1 of the *Securities Act*.

## 6. Sample Notation

- 6.1 A notation of default on the list of reporting issuers will be identified in the list under the heading "Nature of Default". The notation will use coding corresponding to the relevant description in Appendix A:

Example: ABC Inc.                      Cease Traded 1a, 1b, 3

Nature of default:	1a	failure to file annual financial statements
	1b	failure to file interim financial statements
	3	failure to pay a fee required by Alberta securities laws

## 7. Effective Date

- 7.1 This Policy is effective September 15, 2006.

ASC Policy 51-601 Defaulting Reporting Issuers dated July 14, 2004 was repealed and replaced September 15, 2006.

**APPENDIX A****Key Deficiencies Resulting in Default**

1. Failure to file the following continuous disclosure prescribed by Alberta securities laws:
  - (a) annual financial statements;
  - (b) interim financial statements;
  - (c) an annual or interim management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) or an annual or interim management report of fund performance (MRFP);
  - (d) an annual information form (AIF);
  - (e) a certification of annual or interim filings under Multilateral Instrument 52-109 *Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings* (MI 52-109);
  - (f) proxy materials or a required information circular or report in lieu thereof;
  - (g) an issuer profile supplement on the *System for Electronic Disclosure By Insiders* (SEDI);
  - (h) material change reports;
  - (i) a written update as required after filing a confidential report of a material change;
  - (j) a business acquisition report;
  - (k) the annual oil and gas disclosure prescribed by National Instrument 51-101 *Standards of Disclosure for Oil and Gas Activities* or a technical report for a mineral project required under National Instrument 43-101 *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects*;
  - (l) mandatory news releases;
  - (m) corporate governance disclosure as required by National Instrument 58-101 *Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices*;
  - (n) audit committee disclosure as required by Multilateral Instrument 52-110 *Audit Committees*; or
  - (o) disclosure in a reporting issuer's MD&A relating to disclosure controls and procedures and their effectiveness that is referred to in a certificate filed under MI 52-109.

2. Continuous disclosure that is deficient in one or more of the following areas:
  - (a) financial statements of the issuer, or the auditor's report accompanying the financial statements, do not comply with the requirements of National Instrument 51-102 *Continuous Disclosure Obligations* (NI 51-102), National Instrument 81-106 *Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure* (NI 81-106) or National Instrument 52-107 *Acceptable Accounting Principles, Auditing Standards and Reporting Currency*;
  - (b) the issuer has acknowledged that its financial statements, or the auditor's report accompanying the financial statements, may no longer be relied upon;
  - (c) the issuer's AIF, MD&A, MRFP, information circular, or business acquisition reports do not contain information for each of the content items required by NI 51-102 or NI 81-106; or
  - (d) another significant deficiency in the issuer's continuous disclosure record.
3. Failure to pay a fee required by Alberta securities laws.