

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

Supplemental Statement**Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended**For 6 Month Period Ending 11/30/2022
(Insert date)**I - REGISTRANT**

1. (a) Name of Registrant
Ecospherics, LLC
- (b) Registration Number
7119
- (c) Primary Business Address
609 Sligo Creek Parkway, Takoma Park, MD 20912

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following?

(a) If an individual:

- (1) Residence address(es) Yes No
- (2) Citizenship Yes No
- (3) Occupation Yes No

(b) If an organization:

- (1) Name Yes No
- (2) Ownership or control Yes No
- (3) Branch offices Yes No

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in Items (a) and (b) above.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSES TO ITEMS 3, 4, 5, AND 6.3. If the registrant previously filed an Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period. Yes No If yes, has the registrant filed an updated Exhibit C? Yes No

If no, please file the updated Exhibit C.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
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(b) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date Ceased
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5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(a) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, identify each such person and describe the service rendered.

Name	Foreign Principal(s) Represented	Services
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(b) During this 6-month reporting period, did any employee or individual working in any capacity, other than in a clerical or secretarial capacity or in a related or similar capacity, begin rendering services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s)? Yes No

Name	Foreign Principal	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
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(c) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Date Terminated
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(d) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their connection with any foreign principal during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Principal	Date Terminated
Sharon Burke	owner	International Maize and wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	11/30/2022
Sharon Burke	owner	Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	11/30/2022

6. Have short form registration statements been previously filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(b) of the supplemental statement or submitted with this filing? Yes No

If no, list names of persons who have not previously filed the required statement or are not submitting a short form with this filing.

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has the registrant's connection with any foreign principal(s) ended during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date of Termination
International Maize and wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	11/30/2022
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	11/30/2022

8. Has the registrant registered for any new foreign principal(s)² during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Registered
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9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list the foreign principal(s) whom the registrant continued to represent during this 6 month reporting period.

None

10. During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant filed an amendment for changes to Exhibits A³ and/or B⁴ previously filed for any foreign principal(s)? Yes No

If no, and there is a change to any Exhibit A and/or B, please file an amendment if it is required.

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date Amended
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² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3, sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4, sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail all activities and services:

Foreign Principal	Activities/Services
See Appendix for Response	

12. During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant, on behalf of any foreign principal, engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes No

If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures, social media, internet postings, or media broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter. The response must include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation and dissemination of informational materials.

Set forth below a general description of the registrant's political activities.

See Appendix for Response

Set forth below in the required detail the registrant's political activities.

Foreign Principal	Date	Contact	Method	Purpose
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13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, has the registrant engaged in activity or rendered any services on its own behalf which benefits the registrant's foreign principal(s)? Yes No

If yes, describe fully.

Foreign Principal	Activities/Services
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⁵ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

15. (a) DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement or transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes No

If no, explain why no disbursements were made.

International Maize and wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT): I received direct compensation for my own advisory services and had no responsibilities for disbursing funds further.

Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft): Registrant provided consulting services only. No good or other material transactions were involved.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Foreign Principal	Date	Recipient	Purpose	Amount	Subtotal
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Total

(b) DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Foreign Principal	Date	Recipient	Purpose	Thing of Value
International Maize and wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)				None
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)				None

(c) DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant (or any short form registrant) from its own funds and on its own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Donor	Political Organization/Candidate	Method	Amount/Thing of Value
10/26/2022	Sharon Burke	ActBlue	On line contribution	\$ 150.00
10/26/2022	Sharon Burke	Jason Crow for Congress	On line contribution through ActBlue	\$ 250.00
10/26/2022	Sharon Burke	warnock for Georgia	On line contribution through ActBlue	\$ 250.00

10, 11 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant prepared, disseminated or caused to be disseminated any informational materials?¹² Yes No

(b) If yes, identify each such foreign principal for which informational materials were disseminated and respond to the remaining items in this section.

International Maize and wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)

17. During this 6 month reporting period, has a budget been established or specified sum of money allocated to finance the registrant's activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, and specify the period of time and the amount.

Foreign Principal	Period of Time	Amount
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Total

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant's activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials included the use of any of the following:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine or newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising campaigns | <input type="checkbox"/> Press releases | <input type="checkbox"/> Pamphlets or other publications |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lectures or speeches | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio or TV broadcasts | <input type="checkbox"/> Motion picture films | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters or telegrams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website URL(s): _____ | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social media websites URL(s): _____ | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>specify</i>) _____ | | | |

See Appendix for Response

19. During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant prepared, disseminated, or caused to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public officials | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislators | <input type="checkbox"/> Editors | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government agencies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civic groups or associations | <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>specify</i>) _____ | | |

See Appendix for Response

20. Indicate the language used in the informational materials:

- English Other (*specify*) _____

See Appendix for Response

21. Has the registrant filed with the FARA Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials prepared, disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If no, please file the required informational materials.

See Appendix for Response

22. Has the registrant labeled each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Yes No

See Appendix for Response

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI - EXECUTION

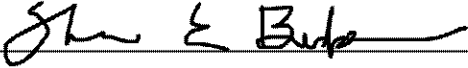
In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature ¹³
<u>05/07/2024</u>	<u>Sharon E. Burke</u>	<input type="text" value="Sign"/> <u>/s/Sharon E. Burke</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="text" value="Sign"/> <u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="text" value="Sign"/> <u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="text" value="Sign"/> <u> </u>

13 This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
May 7, 2024	Sharon E. Burke	
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Appendix Response to Item 11

Item 11: During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail all activities and services:

Foreign Principal(s)	Activities/Services
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	Advice on strategic management, co-authoring articles for publication, meetings with relevant US officials. Please note that this relationship is ongoing, but concerns non-registerable activities, thus the termination. This activity does not predominantly benefit a foreign interest, but rather is an international organization with significant US involvement; the US government both helped to found this organization and remains a major donor to it.
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Strategic advising, lunch meeting with a US official, presentation at an international event with a US official, lunch with US officials following the event. Please note that the planning for the event and lunch occurred in the reporting period, but the event and lunch themselves occurred slightly outside of the reporting period, on December 6, 2022. But there was no other activity on this contract after that date and the final invoice was filed immediately after. On the advice of FARA officials, I ask, therefore, that you consider this activity to be all within the reporting period ending 11/30/22.

Appendix Response to Item 12-Description

International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT): I met with the Director General and staff of CIMMYT for general advising and outreach. I also introduced the Director General to the head of a private US charity and spoke at the World Food Prize event in Iowa on behalf of the organization.

Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft): I arranged a lunch meeting with an NSC official, a US NGO, and a researcher from the Netherlands. I participated in a panel discussion on water issues at an international conference where I helped arrange for a dual-hatted NSC/State Department official to speak. Neither of these meetings was aimed at specific policies or decisions, just to familiarize US officials with the research in hopes they might use it in their work. Occasionally I tweeted or posted on LinkedIn about Water, Peace, and Security Partnership research.

Appendix Response to Item 12-Detail

Foreign Principal(s)	Date	Contact	Method	Purpose
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	07/11/2022	Daniel Schensul, Bezos Earth Fund	Virtual meeting	Introduced CIMMYT leadership to US charity to familiarize them with the work
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	10/18/2022	N/A	Recorded virtual speech	Spoke about food security and importance of the organization's work at the World Food Prize
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	06/07/2022	Jennifer DeCesaro, NSC	Lunch meeting	To familiarize Ms. DeCesaro with research on a new decision support tool that anticipates where water-related conflict may emerge
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	10/18/2022	Stephanie Epner, National Security Council/State Department	Virtual panel discussion at the Berlin Climate Security Conference	Outreach aimed at familiarizing experts and general public with the relationship between water stress and conflict and the work of this research organization
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	11/30/2022	Stephanie Epner, National Security Council/State Department, Annalise Blum, Department of Defense, Daniel Abrahams, USAID, Allison Maddux, USG, Julien Katchinoff, State Department	This event actually took place on December 6, but all of the planning was in the reporting period and there was no activity after the 6th. This was a group lunch event with US and European think tank and scholarly researchers and some US officials following a public event. Please note that I suggested attendees, but the Water, Peace, and Security project handled the actual invitations.	This was meant to be a follow up discussion to the public event immediately preceding.

Appendix Response to Item 14(a)-Detail

Foreign Principal(s)	Date Received	From Whom	Purpose	Amount	Subtotal
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	06/01/2022-11/30/2022	CIMMYT	Retainer fee	\$24,000.00	
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	-----	-----	-----	----->	\$24,000.00
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	11/30/2022	IHE Delft	Final payment (second of two) for work performed in 2022. Please note that this work did include one date in early December (the 6th) and the payment didn't post to our account until 02/03/2023	\$25,325.43	
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	-----	-----	-----	----->	\$25,325.43

Appendix Response to Item 18-List

Item 18-List: During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant's activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

Foreign Principal	Informational Materials
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	Lectures or speeches
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Website URL(s): Please note that I connected the foreign principal and its US partner to individuals at US Africa Command during the reporting period, but I was no longer involved in the project when the Water, Peace, and Security Project team briefed these materials and was not present.
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Website URL(s): https://waterpeacesecurity.org
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Social media websites (URLs): Please note that while I helped write this blog post during the reporting period, the US organization that was part of this foreign principal's partnership did not post the actual blog until February 2023, when I was no longer involved in the project.
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Social media websites (URLs): https://www.wri.org/insights/pakistan-floods-threaten-global-security#:~:text=In%20Pakistan%2C%20torrential%20rains%20and, and%20killed%20over%20900%2C000%20livestock.

Appendix Response to Item 19-List

Item 19-List: During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant prepared, disseminated, or caused to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

Foreign Principal	Recipients
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	Civic groups or associations
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Public officials

Appendix Response to Item 20-List

Item 20-List: Indicate the language used in the informational materials:

Foreign Principal	Language Used
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	English
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	English

Appendix Response to Item 21-List

Item 21-List: Has the registrant filed with the FARA Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials prepared, disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? If no, please file the required informational materials.

Foreign Principal	Filed
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	No
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	No

Appendix Response to Item 22-List

Item 22-List: Has the registrant labeled each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act?

Foreign Principal	Label
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	Yes
Institute for Water Education (IHE Delft)	Yes