Laurence M. Rosen, Esq. (SBN 219683) 1 THE ROSEN LAW FIRM, P.A. 355 South Grand Avenue, Suite 2450 Los Angeles, CA 90071 Telephone: (213) 785-2610 Facsimile: (213) 226-4684 Email: lrosen@rosenlegal.com 5 Counsel for Plaintiff 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 8 9

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RUBEN PERALES, Individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

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TERRAVIA HOLDINGS, INC., JONATHAN S. WOLFSON, APU MODY, and TYLER W. PAINTER.

Defendants.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE FEDERAL **SECURITIES LAWS** 

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiff Ruben Perales ("Plaintiff"), individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, by Plaintiff undersigned attorneys, for Plaintiff's complaint against Defendants (defined below), alleges the following based upon personal knowledge as to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's own acts, and information and belief as to all other matters, based upon, inter alia, the investigation conducted by and through Plaintiff's attorneys, which included, among other things, a review of the Defendants' public documents, announcements, United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings, wire and press releases published by and regarding TerraVia Holdings, Inc. ("TerraVia" or the "Company"), analysts' reports and advisories about the Company, and information readily obtainable on the Internet. Plaintiff believes that

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CLACC ACTION COMBLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE FEDERAL



1 2 substantial evidentiary support will exist for the allegations set forth herein after a reasonable opportunity for discovery.

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### NATURE OF THE ACTION

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1. This is a federal securities class action on behalf of a class consisting of all persons other than Defendants who purchased or otherwise acquired TerraVia securities between August 8, 2016 and November 7, 2016, both dates inclusive (the "Class Period"), seeking to recover compensable damages caused by Defendants' violations of the federal securities laws and to pursue remedies under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder.

# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. The claims asserted herein arise under and pursuant to Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §§78j(b), 78b-1 and 78t(a)) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated thereunder by the SEC (17 C.F.R. §240.10b-5).
- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331 and Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §78aa).
- 4. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to Section 27 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. §78aa), and 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) as the Company maintains its headquarters and conducts business in this District.
- 5. In connection with the acts, conduct, and other wrongs alleged in this Complaint, Defendants, directly or indirectly, used the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, including but not limited to, the United States mails, interstate telephone communications and the facilities of the national securities exchange.

# **PARTIES**

6. Plaintiff Ruben Perales, as set forth in the accompanying certification, incorporated by reference herein, purchased TerraVia securities at artificially inflated prices during the Class Period and has been damaged thereby.

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7. Defendant TerraVia is a company that creates and sells food, nutrition, and
specialty ingredients from algae. Its platform uses microalgae to produce high-value triglyceride
oils, proteins, fibers, micronutrients, and other ingredients. The Company offers products, such
as specialty food and nutrition ingredients, animal nutrition ingredients, and specialty personal
care ingredients, as well as consumer-focused food products. The company was formerly known
as Solazyme, Inc. and changed its name to TerraVia Holdings, Inc. in May 2016. TerraVia was
incorporated in Delaware in 2003 and is headquartered at 225 Gateway Boulevard, South San
Francisco, CA 94080. The Company's common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Global Select
Market ("NASDAQ") under the ticker symbol "TVIA.".

- 8. Defendant Jonathan S. Wolfson ("Wolfson") is a co-founder and the Chairman of the board of directors during the entire Class Period. Wolfson was TerraVia's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") from 2008 to on or about August 21, 2016.
- 9. Defendant Apu Mody ("Mody") is the CEO of TerraVia since on or about August 22, 2016 through the end of the Class Period.
- 10. Defendant Tyler W. Painter ("Painter") is the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") since 2007 and Chief Operating Officer ("COO") of TerraVia since 2014.
- 11. Defendants Wolfson, Mody and Painter are sometimes collectively referred to herein as "Individual Defendants."
  - 12. Each of the Individual Defendants:
    - (a) directly participated in the management of the Company;
    - (b) was directly involved in the day-to-day operations of the Company at the highest levels;
    - (c) was privy to confidential proprietary information concerning the Company and its business and operations;
    - (d) was involved in drafting, producing, reviewing and/or disseminating the false and misleading statements and information alleged herein;

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- (e) was aware of or recklessly disregarded the fact that the false and misleading statements were being issued concerning the Company; and
- (f) approved or ratified these statements in violation of the federal securities laws.
- 13. TerraVia is liable for the acts of the Individual Defendants and their employees under the doctrine of *respondeat superior* and common law principles of agency because all of the wrongful acts complained of herein were carried out within the scope of their employment.
- 14. The scienter of the Individual Defendants and other employees and agents of TerraVia are similarly imputed to TerraVia under *respondeat superior* and agency principles.
- 15. Defendants TerraVia, Wolfson, Mody, and Painter are referred to herein as "Defendants."

## **SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS**

# **Materially False and Misleading Statements**

- 16. The Company provides the following descriptions of its products on its official website:
  - Our microalgae-based protein platform leverages fermentation technology to produce highly nutritious, naturally derived, minimally processed ingredients with outstanding consistency.<sup>1</sup>
  - AlgaVia® Whole Algae Ingredients provide **an array of benefits** that can make reduced-fat foods taste richer, vegan protein fortification simpler and the reduction of saturated fat with great taste and texture possible. Experience a food revolution that makes the future bolder and brighter.<sup>2</sup>
  - AlgaVia® Whole Algae Ingredients help make delicious foods that are better for people and inspire solutions for a better planet.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://algavia.com/



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http://algavia.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/ProteinRich.pdf

http://algavia.com/

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•	[Lipid	Rich	Whole	Algae]	Deliver	healthier,	indulgent	products	without
	compr	omise	4						

- AlgaVia® Protein-Rich Whole Algae is vegan, **free of known allergens** and gluten-free—with additional fiber, lipids, carbohydrates and micronutrients.<sup>5</sup>
- AlgaVia® Protein-Rich Whole Algae delivers a unique set of functional and nutritional benefits.
  - o Whole food ingredient
  - o Free of known allergens
  - o Sustainable, naturally-derived
  - o Contains all essential amino acids
  - o Adds dietary fiber, healthy lipids<sup>1</sup> and micronutrients to food products
  - o Gluten-free, non-GMO and vegan
  - o Manufactured in the U.S.
  - o FDA GRAS No Questions Letter received
  - High protein digestibility
  - O Zero to minimal impact on the texture or viscosity of a finished product
  - o Stable in a variety of temperatures and pH conditions<sup>6</sup>

(Emphasis added).

17. On August 8, 2016, the Company filed a quarterly report on Form 10-Q with the SEC announcing the Company's financial and operating results for the quarter ended June 30, 2016 (the "2Q 2016 10-Q"). The 2Q 2016 10-Q was signed by Defendant Painter. The 2Q 2016 10-Q contained signed certifications pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("SOX") by Defendants Wolfson and Patiner attesting to the accuracy of financial reporting, the disclosure of any material changes to the Company's internal controls over financial reporting, and the disclosure of all fraud. The 2Q 2016 10-Q stated in relevant part:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://algavia.com/ingredients/proteins/



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http://algavia.com/ingredients/

<sup>5</sup> http://algavia.com/ingredients/

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