

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF CORPORATION FINANCE

January 18, 2011

Derica W. Rice Executive Vice President, Global Services and Chief Financial Officer Eli Lilly and Company Lilly Corporate Center Indianapolis, IN 46285

> Re: Eli Lilly and Company Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009 DEF 14A filed March 8, 2010 Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010 File Number: 001-06351

Dear Mr. Rice:

We have completed our review of your filings and do not have any further comments at this time.

Sincerely,

Joel Parker Accounting Branch Chief