

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

January 5, 2011

Matthew K. Fust Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Onyx Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2100 Powell Street Emeryville, CA 94608

> Re: **Onyx Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

> > Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009

Filed February 23, 2010

Definitive Proxy Statement filed April 9, 2010

File Number: 000-28298

Dear Mr. Fust:

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

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Riedler **Assistant Director**

cc: Michael E. Tenta Cooley LLP 3175 Hanover Street

Palo Alto, CA 94304-1130