



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

September 25, 2013

Via E-mail

Andrew Keating  
Group Chief Financial Officer  
The Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland  
40 Mespil Road  
Dublin 4, Ireland

**Re: The Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland  
Form 20-F for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2012  
Filed March 27, 2013  
File No. 001-14452**

Dear Mr. Keating:

We have completed our review of your filings. We remind you that our comments or changes to disclosure in response to our comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the company or the filings and the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States. We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings to be certain that the filings include the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable rules require.

Sincerely,

/s/ John A. Spitz

John A. Spitz  
Senior Staff Accountant