



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

DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

Mail Stop 4720

June 12, 2017

Irene H. Oh  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
East West Bancorp, Inc.  
135 N Los Robles Ave., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Pasadena, California 91101

**Re: East West Bancorp, Inc.**  
**Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2016**  
**Filed February 27, 2017**  
**File No. 000-24939**

Dear Ms. Oh:

We have completed our review of your filing. We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marc Thomas

Marc Thomas  
Senior Staff Accountant  
Office of Financial Services