



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

DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

June 23, 2011

Via E-mail

Andreas Michalopoulos
Chief Financial Officer
Diana Shipping Inc.
Pendelis 16, 175 64 Palaio Faliro
Athens, Greece

**Re: Diana Shipping Inc.
Form 20-F for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010
Filed March 31, 2011
File No. 1-32458**

Dear Mr. Michalopoulos:

We have limited our review of your filing to your contacts with countries that have been identified as state sponsors of terrorism, and we have the following comments. Our review with respect to this issue does not preclude further review by the Assistant Director group with respect to other issues. At this juncture, we are asking you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter within ten business days by providing the requested information, or by advising us when you will provide the requested response. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

If our vessels call on ports located in countries that are subject to sanctions and embargoes imposed by the U.S. or other governments, that could adversely affect our reputation and the market for our common stock, page 15.

1. You state that your vessels may call on ports located in countries subject to sanctions and embargoes imposed by the U.S. government. Those countries include Cuba, Iran, Sudan, and Syria, countries also designated as state sponsors of terrorism by the United States. Please confirm to us that in future filings you will revise your risk factor disclosure to identify the countries to which you refer that are designated as state sponsors of terrorism by the U.S. government.

In this regard, we note that your filing does not include disclosure regarding contacts with the referenced countries. Describe to us the nature and extent of any past, current, and anticipated contacts with Cuba, Iran, Sudan, and/or Syria, whether through subsidiaries or other direct or indirect arrangements. Include information regarding any goods, fees, or services you have provided or anticipate providing, directly or indirectly, to the referenced countries, and any agreements, commercial arrangements, or other contacts you have had, or intend to have, directly or indirectly, with the governments or entities controlled by the governments of those countries.

2. Please discuss for us the materiality of any contacts with Cuba, Iran, Sudan, and/or Syria you describe in response to the foregoing comment, and whether those contacts constitute a material investment risk for your security holders. You should address materiality in quantitative terms, including the approximate dollar amounts of any revenues, assets, and liabilities associated with each of the referenced countries for the last three fiscal years and the subsequent interim period. Also, address materiality in terms of qualitative factors that a reasonable investor would deem important in making an investment decision, including the potential impact of corporate activities upon a company's reputation and share value. As you may know, various state and municipal governments, universities, and other investors have proposed or adopted divestment or similar initiatives regarding investment in companies that do business with U.S.-designated state sponsors of terrorism. Your materiality analysis should address the potential impact of the investor sentiment evidenced by such actions directed toward companies that have contacts with Cuba, Iran, Sudan, or Syria.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all applicable Exchange Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to the company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In responding to our comments, please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; 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.

Andreas Michalopoulos
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Please contact Pradip Bhaumik, Special Counsel, at (202) 551-3333 or me at (202) 551-3470 if you have any questions about the comments or our review.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cecilia Blye

Cecilia Blye, Chief
Office of Global Security Risk

cc: Max Webb
Assistant Director
Division of Corporation Finance