

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

July19 2017

Vicente Anido, Jr., Ph.D. Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc. 2030 Main Street, Suite 1500 Irvine, CA 92614

Re: Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Form 10-K

Filed March 9, 2017 File No. 001-36152

Dear Dr. Anido:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comment. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to the comment within ten business days by providing the requested information or advise us as soon as possible when you will respond. If you do not believe our comment applies to your facts and circumstances, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing your response to the comment, we may have additional comments.

<u>Item 1. Business</u> Intellectual Property, page 16

1. Please expand your disclosure in future filings regarding your patent protection for your current product candidates and proprietary technology to disclose the foreign jurisdictions where you have issued patents or pending patent applications, and the corresponding expiration dates (or expected expiration dates).

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.

Vicente Anido, Jr. Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc. July 19, 2017 Page 2

Please contact Dorrie Yale at 202-551-8776 or Mary Beth Breslin at 202-551-3625 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary Beth Breslin for

Suzanne Hayes Assistant Director Office of Insurance and Healthcare