



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

February 5, 2013

Via E-mail

Kevin R. Watson  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer  
North Valley Bancorp  
300 Park Marina Circle  
Redding, CA 96001

**Re: North Valley Bancorp  
Item 4.02 Form 8-K  
Filed January 30, 2013  
File No. 000-10652**

Dear Mr. Watson:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. Where indicated, we think you should revise your document in response to these comments. If you disagree, we will consider your explanation as to why our comment is inapplicable or a revision is unnecessary. Please be as detailed as necessary in your explanation. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with more information so we may better understand your disclosure. After reviewing this information, we may raise additional comments.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filing. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comments or any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

Form 8-K filed January 30, 2013

Item 4.02. Non-Reliance on Previously Issued Financial Statements or a Related Audit Report or Completed Interim Review.

1. We note your disclosure that you will to file an amendment of your Form 10-Q as of and for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2012 to correct the error in the calculation of the tax benefits. Please tell us when you intend to file the restated financial statements.
2. When you amend your periodic reports to file your restated financial statements, describe the effect of the restatement on the officers' conclusions regarding the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures. See Item 307 of Regulation S-K. If the

officers' conclude that the disclosure controls and procedures were effective, despite the restatement, describe the basis for the officers' conclusions.

As appropriate, please amend your filing and respond to these comments within five business days or tell us when you will provide us with a response. You may wish to provide us with marked copies of the amendment to expedite our review. Please furnish a cover letter with your amendment that keys your responses to our comments and provides any requested information. Detailed cover letters greatly facilitate our review. Please understand that we may have additional comments after reviewing your amendment and responses to our comments.

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 all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In connection with responding to our comments, please provide, in writing, a 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.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filing or in response to our comments on your filing.

If you have any questions regarding the comments, please contact William Schroeder, Staff Accountant, at (202) 551-3294 or me at (202) 551-3423.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amit Pande

Amit Pande  
Accounting Branch Chief