



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549-0303

Mail Stop 3628

August 28, 2008

By Facsimile and U.S. Mail

Brian A. Markison  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
501 Fifth Street  
Bristol, TN 37620

**Re:   Alpharma Inc.  
      Additional Soliciting Material filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12  
      Filed August 22, 2008 by King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
      File No. 001-08593**

Dear Mr. Markison:

We have reviewed your filings and have the following comments. Where indicated, we think you should revise your documents in response to these comments. If you disagree, we will consider your explanation as to why a 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 supplemental information so we may better understand your disclosure. After reviewing this information, we may or may not 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 filings. 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.

Additional Soliciting Material

Important Additional Information

1. We note you indicate that you "may" file a proxy statement and, in the process, this implies that the filing of a non-management definitive proxy statement is not a foregone conclusion. The Commission did not intend to create another exemption from the proxy rules when Rule 14a-12 was adopted. Parties intending to rely upon Rule 14a-12 in making proxy solicitations may only do so to the extent that they intend to file a proxy statement and solicit proxies. See interpretation I.D.3. in the July 2001 Interim Supplement

to the Telephone Interpretations Manual publicly available on our website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Please confirm that the filing party will either (i) refrain from using such non-committal language in future communications by affirmatively stating its intention to file a definitive proxy statement; (ii) find an appropriate exemption under Rule 14a-2 from the application of Section 14(a) and Regulation 14A to future communications; or (iii) refrain from your public solicitation activities of Alpha Pharma Inc. security holders.

2. We note you indicate that a description of direct and indirect interests will be contained in disclosure documents to be filed later. Please note that although participants relying upon Rule 14a-12 may refer to participant information provided in another filed document, the information must be available, current, and on file for review by security holders at the time the Rule 14a-12 materials are made publicly available. Participants may not refer to participant information to be provided at some future time such as the proxy statement. Refer to Rule 14a-12(a)(1)(i) and Exchange Act Release No. 42055, October 22, 1999, at Section II.C.1.b. In future filings, please revise to describe any direct or indirect interests.

#### Closing Information

You should furnish a response letter with the amendment keying your responses to our comment letter and providing any supplemental information we have requested. You should transmit the letter via EDGAR under the label "CORRESP." In the event that you believe that compliance with any of the above comments is inappropriate, provide a basis for such belief to the staff in the response letter.

In connection with responding to our comment, please provide, in writing, a statement from each participant and filing person, as appropriate, acknowledging that:

- the participant or filing person 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 participant or filing person 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.

Brian A. Markison  
King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
August 28, 2008  
Page 3

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filings reviewed by the staff to be certain that they have provided all information investors require for an informed decision.

Please direct any questions to me at (202) 551-3411 or, in my absence, to Nicholas Panos, Senior Special Counsel, at (202) 551-3266. You may also contact me via facsimile at (202) 772-9203. Please send all correspondence to us at the following ZIP code: 20549-3628.

Sincerely,

Peggy Kim  
Special Counsel  
Office of Mergers & Acquisitions