



DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

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

November 17, 2010

Mr. Eugene G. Ballard  
Chief Financial Officer  
W.R. Berkley Corporation  
475 Steamboat Road  
Greenwich, Connecticut 06830

**Re: W. R. Berkley Corporation**  
**Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009**  
**Filed February 26, 2010**  
**DEF 14A filed April 8, 2010**  
**File No. 001-15202**

Dear Mr. Ballard:

We have completed our review of your Form 10-K and related filings and have no further comments at this time.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Riedler  
Assistant Director

cc: Jeffrey S. Hochman, Esq.  
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
787 Seventh Avenue  
New York, New York 10019-6099

Mr. Arturo M. Raschbaum  
Maiden Holdings, Ltd.  
September 30, 2010  
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