

Mail Stop 4631

#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549-4631

November 19, 2010

# via U.S. mail and facsimile

Kerry J. Chauvin, CEO Gulf Island Fabrication, Inc. 567 Thompson Road Houma, Louisiana 70363

> RE: Gulf Island Fabrication, Inc. Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009 Filed March 8, 2010 Forms 10-Q for the Fiscal Quarters Ended March 31, 2010, June 30, 2010, and September 30, 2010 File No. 1-34279

Dear Mr. Chauvin:

We have reviewed your response letter dated November 17, 2010, and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask 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.

## Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, page 23

Results of Operations, page 24

1. We note your response to comment 1 in our letter dated November 2, 2010. It is unclear why you would be unable to provide investors with a discussion and analysis of man-hours you can work in comparison to man-hours worked, if man-hours you can work is how management judges your business. In this regard, we note that it

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was communicated to analysts that man-hours you can work ranges between 3.5 million to 4 million. However, we understand that management may not be able to provide investors with disclosures of an accurate number of these hours for the reasons explained in your letter. As man-hours worked does appear to be a measure used by management to assess the business activity, please expand upon the discussion and analysis you provide under the caption, Workforce, to provide investors with a more comprehensive understanding of the material factors impacting the changes in man-hours worked for each period presented in future filings.

## Form 10-Q for the Fiscal Quarter Ended September 30, 2010

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, page 14

#### Results of Operations, page 15

2. We note your response to comment 9 in our letter dated November 2, 2010, in which you note that there were no indicators of reasonably likely impairments for your Texas facility's fixed assets. In our prior comment, we noted a few negative trends in the operating results for the Texas facility that may raise questions as to whether the recoverability of the associated assets should be assessed in comparison to the carrying values and/or potentially lead to an impairment charge. Please provide us with an understanding as to why you do not believe the indicators noted in our prior comment do not result in a material uncertainty about the recoverability of the Texas facility's fixed assets. Please also consider revising your disclosures in future filings to clarify for investors that while the Texas facility is experiencing negative trends you do not believe it is reasonably likely these trends would result in a material impairment charge, if correct. There is a concern that your investors may not fully understand the uncertainties surrounding your Texas facility.

You may contact Tracey Houser, Staff Accountant, at (202) 551-3736, or in her absence, John Hartz, Senior Assistant Chief Accountant, at (202) 551-3689, or me at (202) 551-3355, if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters.

Sincerely,

Terence O'Brien Accounting Branch Chief