

December 9, 2008

Board of Selectmen
Town of Brooklyn
P.O. Box 359
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Gentlemen,

The proposed Super Wal-Mart construction in East Brooklyn carries with it many serious environmental questions. It is a very large parcel (26 to 27 acres) and there will be impacts, not only to surface features, but also below ground. It will also undoubtedly impact neighboring properties and beyond, both at the surface and below ground. The following is a list of concerns to which Town Commissions may be unable to adequately respond without further assistance from state agencies and scientific experts who are better equipped to answer pertinent questions.

- Precipitation, storm water run-off and snow removal associated with such a large expanse of impervious surface may impact groundwater resources, including aquifers and bedrock wells used by neighboring residential and commercial properties.
- Low Impact Development (LID) practices for such an enormous construction project should be explored to their full extent.
- The project should be reviewed for impacts to surface water bodies such as Long Brook and the Quinebaug River.
- Ecological analysis of the site by impartial professionals should be conducted to determine the possible existence of viable vernal pools and other sensitive ecological communities.
- A thorough review of sensitive Archeological and Historic Resources associated with the site should be conducted by the State Archeologist.

We urge you and the land use commissions to utilize the free services of the Connecticut Environmental Review Team (ERT) to conduct a detailed analysis of the site. It is of crucial importance that we collect all the facts regarding the proposed Wal-Mart construction site so that we can make informed decisions. The ERT is a group of environmental professionals from federal, state, regional and local agencies with the expertise to analyze and provide informed recommendations regarding environmental

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impacts. Their knowledge and expertise will enhance what our commissioners know by filling the gaps of all that they may not. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Tom Dougherty, Chairman, Planning and Zoning Commission
Sherri Soucy, Chairman, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
Jeannine Noel, Chairman, Conservation Commission
Lyn LaCharite, Chairman, Economic Development Commission
Donald E. Williams Jr., State Senator President Pro Tempore