March 23, 2010

SENT VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Mr. Chris Erias
City of Galt Planning Department
495 Industrial Drive
Galt, CA  95632

Walmart Conditional Use Permit and Final Environmental Impact Report
(SAC200701178e)

Dear Mr. Erias:

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to review the Walmart project Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR). SMAQMD respectfully requests the Planning Commission consider the following comments before certifying the EIR and approving the CUP for the project.

1. Discussion and analysis of design features to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from the project were thorough. SMAQMD requests that all design features discussed in the EIR be included in the CUP Conditions of Approval. This could be accomplished simply by reference or individually listed. Condition of Approval # 24 lists six (6) design features from the EIR, but fails to discuss features including dehumidification, food displays, water heating, daylight harvesting, night dimming, occupancy sensors, poured concrete, aspects of recycling, and water conservation fixtures. The addition of these measures as Conditions of Approval will ensure the project reduces its GHG emissions and does not conflict with implementation of the State of California’s GHG emission reduction goals.

2. Page 16 of the Planning Commission Staff Report indicates the SMAQMD “supports the proposed Galt Walmart...” Please clarify the SMAQMD supports the design features of the project that provide the opportunity to reduce vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled. SMAQMD staff cannot support or oppose development projects without the SMAQMD Board of Directors’ approval. The Board of Directors has not taken a position on this project.

Please contact me at 916-874-4881 or khuss@airquality.org if you would like to discuss these comments or need clarification.

Sincerely,

Karen Huss
Associate Air Quality Planner/Analyst

Cc: Mr. Larry Robinson, SMAQMD