



Mike Duke, President and CEO
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
702 SW 8th Street
Bentonville, AR 72716

10 April 2013

Re: **Your Customers Want Safer Products Free from Toxic Chemicals**

Dear Mr. Duke,

As one of the top ten retailers in the United States, you are an industry leader. With great power in the market place comes great responsibility. We appreciate the efforts Walmart has already taken to reduce its environmental impact and improve sustainability across your supply chain. In particular, we applaud Walmart's success in taking action to stop selling products containing PBDEs and baby bottles containing BPA, and for the company's leadership in designing the GreenWERCS tool.

We are members of [Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families](#), a broad-based national coalition working to protect human health and the environment from dangerous chemicals in everyday consumer products.

We are concerned that certain chemicals of high concern may be present in some consumer products, and that those same chemicals may be found in the bodies of newborn babies, children and adults; in household dust and indoor air; in our food supply; in our workplaces; and in the environment that sustains all life. Scientists have established potential links between exposures to many of these chemicals and chronic diseases and health conditions, such as cancer, reduced fertility, learning and developmental disabilities, behavioral problems, obesity, diabetes, and asthma.

We ask that Walmart now take additional steps to remove hazardous chemicals from the products you sell. More specifically:

We have attached a list of the **Hazardous 100+** chemicals of high concern. Most of these chemicals have been formally identified as hazardous by at least two authoritative governmental bodies based on strong credible scientific evidence. We have added a small group of additional chemicals that may pose similar hazards based on the published scientific literature or the finding of an authoritative government body.

We request that you determine whether any of the *Hazardous 100+* are present in the products you sell, including product parts and packaging, and if so, that you develop a public action plan within the next twelve months that includes a timeline to address these chemicals, including reducing, eliminating, or safely substituting the chemicals as appropriate.

You have the ability – and responsibility – to work with your suppliers to replace hazardous chemicals with truly safer alternatives, or to stop selling their products. Doing so will not only please your customers, it will help you reduce the various costs that may be associated with carrying toxic chemicals in your stores.

We have enclosed our *Hazardous 100+ Action Guide* that describes many resources available to assist you in addressing chemicals of concern in your products. As an overarching framework, we strongly recommend the [Principles for Safer Chemicals](#) and [Guide to Safer Chemicals](#) developed by the BizNGO Working Group on Safer Chemicals and Sustainable Materials, an ongoing collaboration between major corporations and public interest organizations.

We would appreciate receiving your written response to our request by June 1, 2013. We would also be pleased to discuss with you our mutual interest in providing safe, quality products for your customers. If you would like to discuss options and approaches, please contact Andy Igrejas, Director of Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families at (202) 465-8157 or andyigrejas@saferchemicals.org.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this leadership commitment.

Sincerely,

Andy Igrejas
Director
Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families

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