

From: Bob Blank
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2006 6:20 PM
To: Public Information
Subject: Wal-Mart's bank application

Please don't approve Wal-Mart's bank application. The bank of Wal-Mart would be an unprecedented and dangerous concentration of capital in the hands of one single corporation and would negatively impact consumers, small businesses and communities. Wal-Mart already is the focus of numerous investigations into unfair labor practices, we don't want even more employees to suffer than are already. Among the practices that Wal-Mart embraces, Wal-Mart Threatens National Security. In the past few years, Wal-Mart has:

- (1) Opposed the introduction of anti-terrorist "smart containers" and electronic seals for cargo containers coming into U.S. Ports.
- (2) Opposed independent and regular inspections of supply-chain security practices around the world.
- (3) Opposed tougher rules requiring Wal-Mart to let Customs know what it's shipping in and where it comes from.
- (4) Opposed new container-handling fees to pay for improved port security.
- In small towns and communities all over the country, Wal-Mart has forced out to business smaller "Mom & Pop" businesses by undercutting prices and then raising prices back up again after the competition is gone. Wal-Mart employees are not even offered affordable medical insurance. Those employees and employees of the prospective banks depend on the U.S. Taxpayers for medical coverage. Until Wal-Mart takes care of what they already have, don't give them more.

Robert Blank
316 Trent Road
Somerset, PA 15501