

Mail Stop 4561

December 30, 2008

Mr. Robert H. Baum  
Inland American Real Estate Trust, Inc.  
2901 Butterfield Road  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

**Re: Inland American Real Estate Trust, Inc.  
Post-Effective Amendment No. 7 to Form S-11  
Filed November 21, 2008  
File No. 333-139504**

Dear Mr. Baum:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comment. Where indicated, we think you should revise your document in response to our comment. If you disagree, we will consider your explanation as to why our comment is inapplicable or a revision is unnecessary. Please be as detailed as necessary in your explanation. After reviewing this information, we may raise additional comments.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filing. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comment or any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

Funds From Operations, page 12

1. We note your response to comment 1 of our previous letter. Please revise to discuss distribution payments and the sources of funds used to make distributions, even if the source of distributions is cash from operations. In addition, we note that your declared distribution exceeded net cash flows from operating activities for the fiscal quarter ended March 30, 2008.

\*\*\*\*\*

As appropriate, please amend your registration statement in response to this comment. You may wish to provide us with marked copies of the amendment to expedite our review. Please furnish a cover letter with your amendment that keys your response to our comment and provides any requested information. Detailed cover letters greatly

facilitate our review. Please understand that we may have additional comments after reviewing your amendment and response to our comment.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes all information required under the Securities Act of 1933 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Notwithstanding our comment, in the event the company requests acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement, it should furnish a letter, at the time of such request, acknowledging that:

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in connection with our review of your filing or in response to our comment on your filing.

We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. We will act on the request and, pursuant to delegated authority, grant acceleration of the effective date.

We direct your attention to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requesting acceleration of a registration statement. Please allow adequate time after the filing of any amendment for further review before submitting a request for acceleration. Please provide this request at least two business days in advance of the requested effective date.

Mr. Robert H. Baum  
Inland Real Estate Trust, Inc.  
December 30, 2008  
Page 3

Please contact Jerard Gibson, Attorney-Advisor, at (202) 551-3473 or the undersigned at (202) 551-3785 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

Karen J. Garnett  
Assistant Director

cc: Michael J. Choate, Esq.  
Shefsky & Froelich Ltd.  
VIA FACSIMILE (312) 275-7554