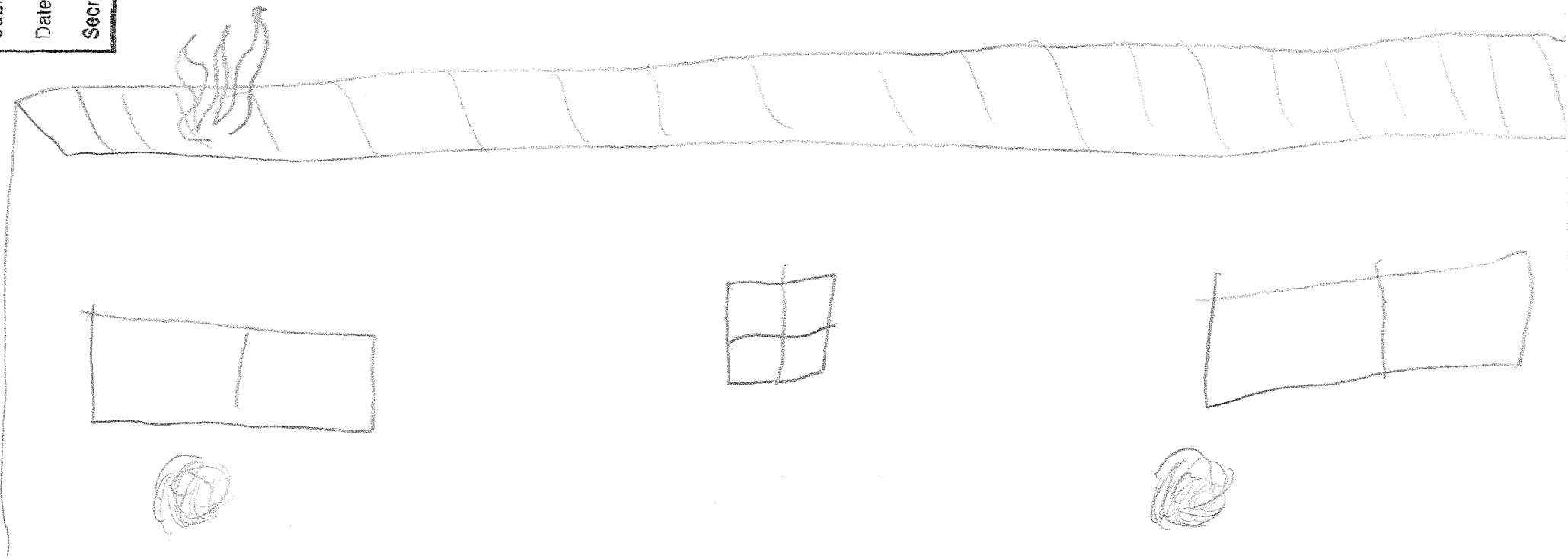


my name is Declan and I live in  
Eotieambally and my dad works at Eoly irrigation.  
He usually is away at Sydney & canberra to help  
us keep our water. Tell Julia to help us too!

Regards Declan Evans, year 2

Submission No: 520  
Date Received: 13 - 1-11  
Secretary: SC



To Michael McCormack,

My Name is: Matilda Blackett.

I want to Live in colly my whole  
Life. My Dad Works at colly irrigation  
his Name is: Chris Blackett.

My Mum's Name is Samantha Blackett  
She works at Tirkandi. I Like  
Living in a small country town because  
there is not much people and it is  
quiet.

Regards, Matilda Blackett



Dear Mr. McCormack, My name is Jonah and I  
Live on a rice farm my Dad is harvesting. He  
is harvesting canola. With out water we can not  
grow crops and we will run out of money. My mum  
is a teacher and with out water the school at  
Coleambally <sup>will</sup> close down. I live about 24 minutes  
away I donot want to live in a big city!!

Regards, Jonah Foster



To Michael McCormack 6.12.10

My name is Koby Bretz

I live at farm 611 Coleambally

My dad is a grain farmer

To Michael McCormack

My dad grows, triticale, clover, barley,  
rice.

So please don't take the water away  
cause we will not be able to make  
money to live.

Please talk to Julia Gillard.

Michael McCormack

Federal Minister for Riverina

To Michael Mc Cormack,

Hello my name is Abbey and I live in Coleambally. My dad works at Pumps Pipes and Power in the small town of Coleambally. Most of his work involves irrigation farmers. If you take the water away no one will live in Coleambally. My mum works at Coleambally Central School and she would not be able to work if the town becomes a "ghost town."

Regards,

Abbey Young.

My name is Jessica Okunio my  
dad is a rice farmer if we  
have no water it will all dry  
up. from Jessica I will be very  
Sad.



Michael McCormack

Federal Member for Riverina.

Dear Mr McCormack,

My name is Chantal and I live in Darlington Point which is 20km away from Coleambally. My dad drives trucks and my mum works at the preschool. If we don't get any water my dad won't have a job because he won't have any food to carry. Also, if the government takes the water the farmers can't grow crops. If Julia Gillard takes the water my mum won't have a job because all the people will have to move.

Regards,

Chantal knight.



To Michael McCormack Federal Member for Riverina

Dear Michael McCormack

If you take our water away how will the plants and animals survive? So please don't take away our water. How will people have jobs, food, money or water?

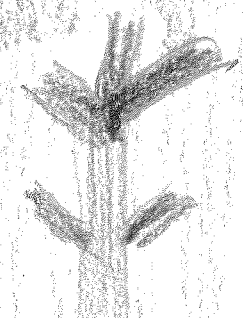
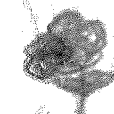
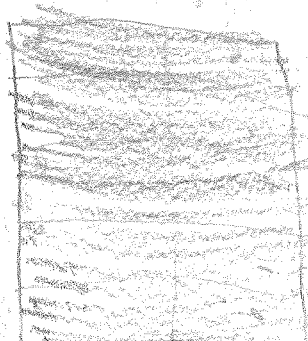
From Jack Blackett

To Michael McCormack

Hello my name is Phoebe I live  
in town. I like living here.

This is what the town will look  
like. ↘

Regards, Phoebe White Yr 2  
CCS



Dear Michael McCormack

Please don't steal our water because we need to make money to feed our families.

From Max Rossato



To Michael Mc Cormack,  
Federal Member for Riverina.

My name is Alana Robb, I live in the town of Coleambally. My dad has an important job with irrigation and supplies my family with an amount of money that is able to let us pay bills, buy food and keep our house. So if you take our water we will have to go all the way to Wagga Wagga, which is two hours away to buy food. My family will lose our house because my mum and dad are out of business and we will have no money and you will have less food and it will cost more because we won't be there to supply you with food. So think what would happen to Australia if you took our water and maybe reconsider?

Regards, Alana Robb Year 4  
Coleambally Central School

Hello Michael McCormack

My name is Harry Tooth and I live 20 minutes out of town on a rice farm.

If we have to move our two dogs would die.

I want to b a farmer like my dad when I grow up and I want to have a future here.

Regards

Harry Tooth yr 4

CCS

**6/12/10**

**To Michael McCormack**

Federal member for Riverina,

Hello my name is Andy. We live and work on a farm.  
We grow wheat, barley, corn, triticale and rice.

If you take our water we will have to go to Wagga  
To get groceries because our town will disappear.

Coly will die and become a ghost town if  
Water is taken off us.

Regards Andy Evans

Year 4

Coleambally Central School

My name is Jordan Leach.

I live in 25 bellbird Coleambally NSW 2707

To Michael McCormack,

We need more water because we are running out of water & if the water does run out the shops will close and we would have to drive to Wagga which is 2 hours & 20 mins to get there, that will suck!!!.



## To Michael McCormack

Federal Member of the Riverina,

My name is Jarod Brain and I live on a farm 50kms out of town. My dad has 6 farms. Nearly all of the farms have paddocks and in every paddock has a crop. Do you realise that if they take all our water away there would not be any food for us to eat? Then Australia will have hungry people. The government has to realise that this is not just our problem it is yours too.

Regards, Jarod Brain.

Michael McCormack

Federal Member for Riverina

Dear Mr McCormack,

Hi my name is Molly Young and I was born in Coleambally in 2000. This is my home town and I love it here. This is the only place I have ever known & lived. If I live in the city I wouldn't know anything or anyone unlike here. If you walk down the street everyone is friendly and always says hello.

So here are some reasons why you can't take the water from the Riverina!!!!

- \* The community will die out and everyone will run to the over flowing cities.
- \* There will be a high rate of suicide.
- \* The farmers will move away.
- \* Companies will go broke.
- \* There will be a shortage of irrigation.
- \* Living towns will become ghost towns.
- \* Farmers crops will not grow.
- \* Not enough food will be made in Australia & we will have to import food.
- \* Schools will be closed.
- \* Prices for food will rise.

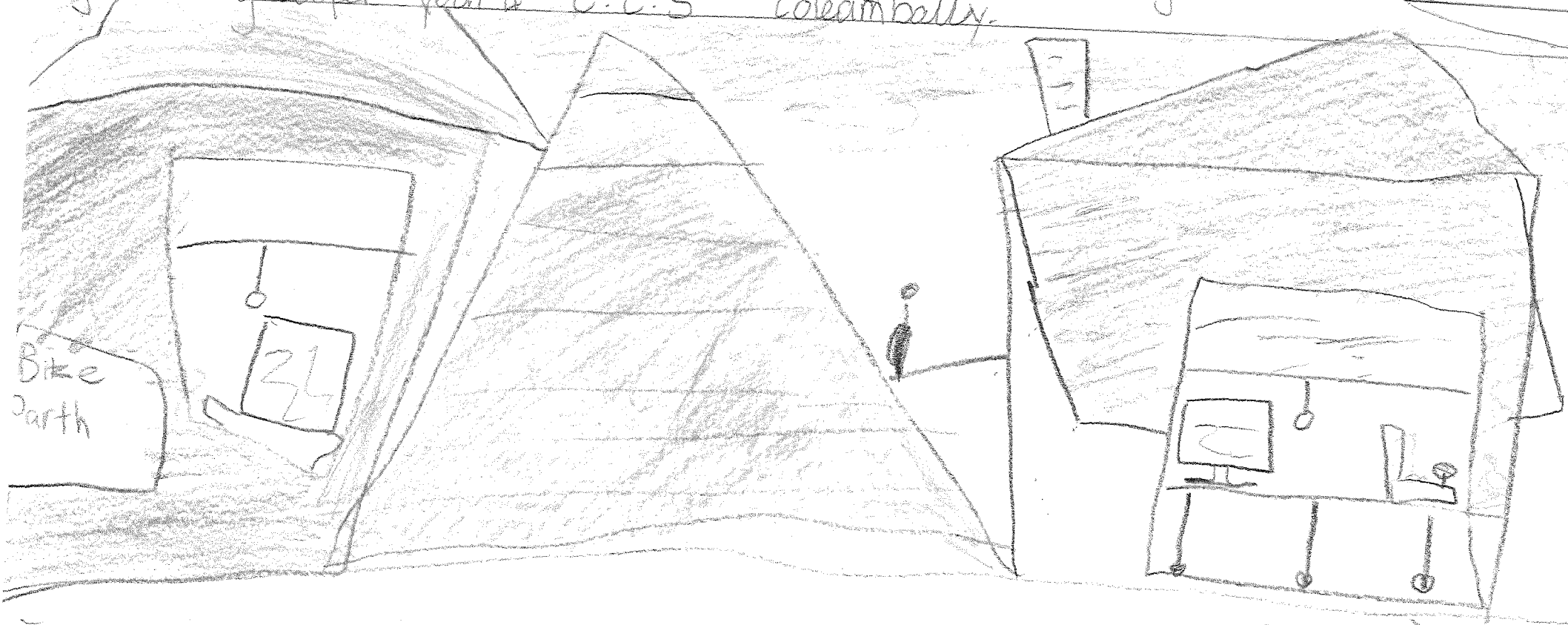
**So please do not take our water.**

**Regards,**

**Molly Young.**

o Michael McCormack Federal Member for Riverina.

please let the water stay in our town for the good of Australia it would be so nice if we could have water just because colly is small it does not mean that we cannot have any water. My Mum is the Boss of colly Ambulance station and he would not have a job if coleambally becomes a "ghost town".  
Regards Lily cooper year 4 C.L.S coleambally.



To Michael McCormack  
Federal Member for Riverina,  
my name is George Payne

I live on farm 568 Graham  
road.

My Dad is a rice farmer.

If there wasn't enough  
water we would have  
to travel to Wagga to  
the mill to unload

the truck. Our workers  
would move and then  
we would too. Then we  
would be broke. Then we  
would have no food and  
everything would die.

We must have water to  
survive.

regards, George Payne

To Michael McCormack Federal Member for Riverina.

My name is Seth Jackson and my dad digs channels for Farmers and if there is no water we will go out of business.

Because the farmers will move and my dad will have no one to work for and we will get poor.

Regards, Seth Jackson  
Coleambally Central School  
6/12/10

# ***Michael McCormack***

*My name is Wen.*

*I have just started to live in Coleambally.*

*My dad is the chef of the local club. I*

*like live in Coleambally, because the*

*people are nice. If the water gets taken*

*away no one would go to my dad's*

*restaurant to buy food. If that happens*

*my dad would have to find another job.*

*If the water was taken away the shop*

*would close, and every one would be*

*hungry.*



**Dear Michael McCormack,**

**Hi my name is Cassidy Gilbert and I was born in the city but I moved to Coleambally on my 1<sup>st</sup> birthday. My Dad (Shane Gilbert) is the boss of C.I.A tyre service and my Mum (Jodie Gilbert) has just recently bought a business, Coly Electrical. If you take our water away there will be 650 people walking up and down the streets without houses. Think of the parents out there trying to save their children and houses before it is too late. When you walk up the streets of Coleambally all the faces look familiar, if you take our water away we'll all have to move to the city so all the faces on the streets will be strangers. So please don't take our water away or our town will die.**

**Yours faithfully**

**Cassidy Gilbert**

hello my name is Josie Moore and I live in coleambally  
Can you ASK Julia Gilbrd for some more water  
for the farmers will go out of business. We will  
not have any crops, any food and no shops  
because <sup>we</sup> have no food. So can you please ask Julia  
Gilbrd for some more water please Michael McCormack  
Can we please have some more water or my family  
and me will have to move.

Regards,  
Josie  
Moore



this would be good



Michael McCormack

Federal Member for Riverina

Dear Mr Michael McCormack,

My name is Bea Firth and I have lived in Coleambally for 5yrs. My dad moved from Coffs Harbour to Coleambally because he got a job as a music art teacher. I like Coleambally because it is a nice, safe town and everyone is friendly. I would hate Coleambally to turn into a ghost town!!!!

If all the water is taken away there would be no Coleambally. Everyone would move away.

Farmers would have no water to grow crops. That would affect the food industry because people would lose their jobs and would have to move away.

Food prices would increase because Australia would have to import food from other countries. Farmers need to have water to grow crops for their livestock or we will have no meat.

These are the reasons the government should not take our water

Yours sincerely,

Bea Firth.

*Bfirth*



Michael McCormack

Federal Member of Riverina

My name is Michael Connor and I have lived in Coleambally all my life. My parents are grape farmers and I'm a student at Coleambally Central School and I think that we shouldn't put water in the Murray Darling Basin because farmers will not have enough water to grow their crops and their crops will die. Communities and towns will become ghost towns and people will lose their jobs and move to the city. Prices will go up and more businesses will close. Farmers will lose their farms due to low water and we will have to import more food from other countries causing people to not buy Australian made products.

Therefore I think that we should not put farmer's water into the Murray Darling Basin.

Yours Faithfully,

Michael Connor.

Michael Connor

Michael McCormack

Federal Member for Riverina

Dear Mr McCormack,

Hi, MY NAME IS LACHLAN AND I AM 11 YEARS OLD. I LIVE ON A FARM IN COLEAMBALLY. I HAVE LIVED IN COLEAMBALLY MY WHOLE LIFE. MY DAD WORKS ON OUR FARM AND MY MUM WOKS AT THE LOCAL SCHOOL. MY GRANDFATHER CAME HERE AND FARMED THE LAND. NOW MY DAD AND MY UNCLE AND MY GRANDFATHER FARM THE LAND.

**If the government takes the water, my dad, uncle and grandfather might not be able to farm anymore. A lot of people are farmers in Coleambally and they might not be able to farm so they might move away taking their children with them. My mum and other teachers may lose their jobs. The businesses might go bankrupt and might get shut down. Coleambally could become a ghost town causing people to leave. Coleambally houses 600 people where does the government expect these people to go????????????????**

**Regards,**

**LACHLAN FOSTER.**

*Lachlan Foster*



**Michael McCormack**

**Federal Member for Riverina**

**To Mr. McCormack,**

Hello my name is Claire Robb. I was born in Wagga Wagga and have lived in the Riverina all my life. I am 12 yrs old. My mum and dad have jobs in the community of Coleambally. Mum Christina Robb works at the Westpac bank and my dad Gary Robb has his own business which is cabinet making. I live on a farm at Coleambally.

The government should not take water away from the communities as people could start moving away to the cities and the cities would become crowded. The towns could become ghost towns and businesses could go broke. People could become depressed for not being able to provide food and water for their families. Schools could close because of low attendance from students.

Therefore we should NOT take the water away from the Riverina Irrigation Area.

**THANKYOU ☺**

**Yours Faithfully,**

**Claire Robb.**

***Michael McCormack MP***  
***Federal member for Riverina***

Dear Mr McCormack,

Hi my name is Kymmy I am 11 years old. I live on a farm outside of Coleambally, I have lived there all my life.

My mum and dad live and work on the farm. They grow rice, wheat, barley, soy beans, canola and oats. He also produces beef for the local butcher. Without water my family could not produce any of this food. Therefore we would have to import food from overseas.

Coleambally is a small town with a population of about 600. If the water is taken away everyone would move away, leaving Coleambally a ghost town. Everyone from the country would move to the cities making the cities even more crowded than they already are.

So do not take our water away.

**!!!PLEASE!!!**

Yours sincerely

Kymmy Brain

6/12/10

Hello Michael McCormack

My name is Shayne Scott. I live in Coleambally. My dad works at the rice mill. Tell the prime minister if the farms close down there will not be any water for us. My friends will move out. My dad will lose the job and mum will be sad.

Regards,

Shayne Scott Year 3 Coleambally Central School

## To Michael McCormack MP

Federal member for Riverina

My name is Emma Dunbar. I have lived in Coleambally all my life.

I want to live in Coly and I want my kids to live and grow up here too.

My dad is a rice farmer. We grow wheat, barley and rice.

If our water is taken away we will have no money. We will have to move away.

I will have no friends and would miss our great community. All our shops would have to close and we would have no jobs.

We would have to go to Wagga to get our groceries. Our petrol costs would go up and our town would become a ghost town.

Truck drivers would lose their jobs.

Our businesses would have to stop because we couldn't get supplies.

Some farmers may even resort to suicide. I am not happy about this and neither are all the communities involved.

Regards

Emma Dunbar of Year 5

Coleambally Central School

To Michael McCormack

My name is Otadan I live in a place called Coleambally in N.S.W and if  
the government takes the water from the Murrumbidgee lots of farmers will  
be out of business and leave cold. The shops will close down and everyone will leave  
cold. So please save the water. Regards Otadan Liam Evans year 5.



Michael McCormack

Member for Riverina

Dear Mr McCormack,

I have lived in Coleambally all my life. I wouldn't like to live anywhere else. I think Coly is a great place to grow up. My name is Tessa Evans and I live on Farm 64. My life would be more difficult if I had to move somewhere else. I wouldn't know anyone or anything. I was even born in my old farm house! I was born in 2000. (We have only moved about 50 metres away from my old house but I haven't moved to a different farm.)

The drought that we had was horrible. It is a blessing that the floods from the Murrumbidgee have come through. Even though it has increased the mosquito plague it has helped with the locust plague. So if they take away our water the locust will eat everything in sight. All our crops will die.

Where would Coleambally, Griffith, Leeton, Narrandera and Wagga Wagga live? What would happen to our education? We all couldn't live in the cities. So where would everyone live?

Regards,

Tessa Evans.

Dear Michael McCormack.

I am Michael Gitsham and I live on a farm with my dad, and mum.

Tell Tony Abbot this “stop taking our water!” If your boss doesn’t convince people to do that we will die and our town will turn into a ghost town.

From MICHAEL GITSHAM Year 5  
Coleambally Central School

Michael McCormack

Federal Minister for Riverina

Dear Mr McCormack,

My name is Georgia and I have lived in Coleambally all my life. I was born in Narrandera and I am Robert Black's daughter.

The Murray Darling Basin Plan is affecting everyone. It would be great if the government stops the Murray Darling Basin Plan because then we could have all of our water to plant crops, and water trees, flowers and grass etc. We need to have the opportunity to have a farming life, but we can't have that if they take our water.

You are the greatest man for the job. You are going to be a saviour if you stop the Murray Darling Basin Plan because we need the water to drink, to wash things, to plant things. Did you see my dad on the Late- line show at 10:30? We were in Canberra for it and we saw him on the TV at the motel. I was really proud of my DADDY!

Regards,

Georgia Mary Black.

Michael McCormack

Federal Minister For Riverina

Dear Michael McCormack,

My name is Tom Rice and I live on a farm. My Dad is a rice, corn, wheat and barley farmer. I am going to be farmer when I am older in the CIA, but this could change if the Murray Darling Basin Plan goes ahead. If it went ahead there would not be enough water to grow the rice and corn, so we might have to move.

I do not want that to happen because I have lived here all my life. I wish to farm and raise a family here and send my kids to Coleambally Central School. If the Murray Darling Basin Plan goes ahead I could lose my dream.

Communities could die and where would they live? The cities have already taken all the jobs and are crowded. The mines have too many people working for them. Our economy and Australia is one of the biggest food producers in the world, but this might change if the Murray Basin Plan goes ahead.

Please do not take our water away or our community would suffer.

Regards,

Tom Rice.

## **Dear Michael McCormack MP**

Hello my name is Annie Blackett.

I have lived in Coleambally for 9 years. I was born in 1999. I live at 54 Kingfisher Avenue.

My mum and dad work in this Community, My mum works at Tirkandi [Tirkandi is a place where they help Aboriginal boys grow and live a better life.] My dad works at Coly Irrigation.

Coleambally has a population of 600 and if the water is taken away all these people will have to move to cities or other countries. Coleambally has been in a drought since 1999. If the water goes away it will become a drought again.

So please don't take the water away.

Yours Sincerely,

Annie Blackett

Dear Michael McCormack,

My name is Tom Rice and I live on a farm. My Dad is a rice, corn, wheat and barley farmer. I am going to be farmer when I am older in the CIA, but this could change if the Murray Darling Basin Plan goes ahead. If it went ahead there would not be enough water to grow the rice and corn, so we might have to move.

I do not want that to happen because I have lived here all my life. I wish to farm and raise a family here and send my kids to Coleambally Central School. If the Murray Darling Basin Plan goes ahead I could lose my dream.

Communities could die and where would they live. The cities have already taken all the jobs and is crowded. The mines have too many people working for them. Our economy and Australia is one of the biggest food produces in the world, but this might change if the Murray Basin Plan goes ahead.

Please do not take our water away or our community would suffer.

From,

Tom Rice.

Harley Robb

Mr. Mc Cormack

As you may know the small community of Coleambally was built to support the large number of Agricultural members. Shutting down or taking water will jeopardise the businesses in Coleambally and cause people to move causing lots of stress toward people and children having to move schools and be away from friends.

Q. Mr McCormack. I think it's insufficient that ~~to~~ there are taking all  
of the workers of us we need it to keep collectively, grther and  
others, so ~~what~~ are we going to live, we need food and so  
how are





To, Michael McCormack

I am totally against the Murray Darling basin plan because here in Coly we basically rely on farmers and if you take the water from us it will cost money and they will have less, then they will have less money and will the farm because it has become non-profitable. The towns people will have no jobs and most will leave and local businesses will have to shut down. Most people here go by the

Saying

• Coly born
• Coly bred
• Coly till I'm dead

And we don't plan on leaving here soon.

From Emma Lamont ❤️

Mr McCormack,

My life is based on friends, family and my town. If the Murray darling basin plan goes ahead all this will be taken away from me. My friends will go there separate ways, family will go away and the town will shatter and will not be Coleambally. My mum and dad have separated and already are too far apart for my little brother and I. My mum lives in Griffith who owns a restaurant and my dad owns a rice, sheep and wheat farm, I'm not just telling you about my life. What I'm saying is my mum and dad will go separate ways. My mum will probably go to Sydney and dad will probably go to out of Melbourne. My aunty is buried in Narrandera, my god mother buried in Griffith and my cousin buried in Coleambally, and one of my best friend's dad is buried in Dalington Point. These four towns are going to be affected. There will be no shire so who will look after the cemetery. Nobody ~~will~~ we will not be able to see our family who are dead but they don't care! But we do. I am a twelve year old girl who is going to listen to me I wonder, not really any one but if we all try and help somebody has to listen. Coleambally will be nothing without every one who lives here. For example Brian and Helen Kelly they own the Kelly's Supermarket without them we wouldn't be able to Kelly's and have a friendly conversation or Phil and Anne Price without them here wouldn't be a gift shop or <sup>the</sup> Elouria group without that there wouldn't be ~~at~~ <sup>a</sup> place for the disabled people to work. What I'm saying is without any of them there will not be a Coleambally. This can not happen without about 50,000 or even more people New South Wales will lose.

It will effect so many friendships and families.  
Well i hope my letter will help in some way.

Three questions:

Where will we go?

What will happen to us?

do they care?

your sincerely.

emma mannes

# What I Think of the 2010 Plan

1. The many details of the 2010 Plan are about 1/2 a ton of Revision  
and the Budget Bill were + next generation  
I am going to go water again in all the  
about about it's being so, whose ~~was~~ ~~that~~ ~~was~~  
I'm happy by the way about future.

From Brandon Henry, Future Farmer?

AWESOME 😊

Don't think you should take our water  
because we need to grow our crops  
because we live 70% of Australia  
and if you do that it is  
be... for us and for you  
and we have got to save for the  
future and the crop.

Sincerely yours  
[Signature]



[Faint signature]

MR Michael McCormack

I think the ~~if~~ the government takes our water the farmers ~~will~~ will have to pack up and move away, and if the farmers move Coleambally, Darlington point, Griffith, Leeton, Wagga Wagga, Narrandera.

If you ~~told~~ <sup>told</sup> a city kid where they get ~~their~~ their food and milk from, they might ~~or~~ not eat of ~~that~~ drink milk for a long time.

Dylan John.

Mr McCormack,

The Murray Darling Baisen plan is going to effect me in many ways if it takes place. With less water, there will be less farming. Our area thrives on farming, without farming people will move away to other places, which will reduce numbers in schools, make the communities smaller and leave many schoolkids without ~~many~~ friends! Also, if people move away & the towns die out, my dad's business will just about die as well. My dad builds fences, handyman, etc. The main thing my dad does, is build and make things. Without people, there is not much work for him. Another problem: Real Estate, people who have houses for sale. Their properties will have no value because there will be no one to buy them!

Back to farming - without farmers making produce, many shops and supermarkets will need to use more imported food than local because there will be ~~hardly~~ hardly any local produce being grown! ~~This area~~ If this plan goes ahead, there will be no basin. The only thing that will be left in this area is a DUSTBOWL.

As a local Griffith sign says "You don't fix the baisen by destroying the bowl". I really agree with it. If this plan goes ahead, this area will be nothing. We want the people putting this plan in, to know what will happen in the longterm. We want them to know, that we OBJECT!

Yours truly  
Chloe Lafsey.



Dear Mr McCormack

I think the Murry darling basin plan is a bad idea because ~~it~~ will ruine familys and there lives / For one I love it here in Colly I cant move if this town goes down I will go down with it and I wont be going down with out a Fight I love this town and who ever decided this plan is not gonna make it cause we hate the idea question were will we go im not moving to the city Cause we do it rough allready My sisters a diabetic with celiacs disease and I have ashma and im allergic to a very good medicene and im sick of polokes and there Plans just leave us alone you bunch of Silly gooses dont you guys understand if you guys lost Sydney or camberra how would you feel like we feel im guessing ill tell you now me and friend arnt leaving we will be hobos if we have to because all our family are in that Semetary and if ~~we~~ this Plan destroy our town all our History and our Future will be destroyed My dream is to raise a Family when Im older in Coleambatty in a house I like with ~~an~~ heaps of animals. the Plan will destroy all my plans!

By Tylia Hill a proud citizen of Colly!

Dear Michael,

My life is based on the things that revolve around me. If the Murray Darling Basin goes ahead, all of these small little towns such as Griffith maybe, Darlington Point and Collearnbally, will have to shut shop and move away. And if the farmers leave, we will have to go. And the question is if we have to stop, where would we go? And the bad thing is if our family had died we wouldn't be able to lift their passed bodies up and take them with us. We will all then probably forget. I hope you get this cause I do not want to go homeless or poor for the rest of my life so please help us.

Yours Sincerely

Maddie

Jackson

I believe that Coleambally is a good town, not a great town, but a good town. I also believe that your plan is bad. Instead of thinking that the people who make this plain happen will end up legends, they won't, everyone in the Riveria will think very badly upon them.

My Dad is a farmer. He has had a triff ~~for~~<sup>10</sup> years because of the drought. If this plain is put ahead then my Dad will not have the money to continue being a farmer. If this happens, where are we ment to go?

We all need this town, if this plain happens then everything will have to close and we will all have to move. Where are we ~~ment~~<sup>ment</sup> to go? All my friends will have to move so the school will close because there's not enough kids to go. All the things that are in Coleambally will be forgotten, ~~amened~~<sup>abandoned</sup>. My friend Claire is buired in the cemetery, as well as my Great Auntie and her ~~2~~ sons, who is ment to look at the cemetery.

If all the farmers leave then all the farms and there houses will also be forgotten and ~~amened~~<sup>abandoned</sup>. The town houses will be forgotten and ~~amened~~<sup>abandoned</sup> to.

I think that this plain should not go ahead. If it does then you should remember all the problems and frobles that you will be coursing alot of people.

Mr. McCormack

What the point of flushing the  
fresh water down the river and turning  
it into salt water. don't we  
want to save the water for  
another drought # !!!!!!!!

What about our community  
where are we going to go

i think ~~it~~ your just thinking about  
your self and grow up

Mr. McCormack

MR M<sup>c</sup>CORMACK

If the murrumbidgee dam plan goes ahead it will mess up this and many more towns. Just the idea of taking water from towns and farmers and flowing it down rivers is wrong. The purpose of the murrumbidgee river is to supply people with water. What the government is doing is reversing this purpose by taking away our water and sending it away for the Environment.

WE NEED OUR WATER mr m<sup>c</sup>cormack

From Noah Bella to -  
Son of a Farmer  
Grandson of a Farmer  
Nephew of a Farmer  
Future Farmer (HOPEFULLY)

Dear Mr. McCook

All this marry dartin beusen plan is ridiculas -  
my family lives on a farm and me and my dad are  
farmers we are flake ~~out~~ out. the problem is when  
one things fixed another things happens and it goes  
on and on. My dad had an accident and he is flat  
out evry day and when iam at school I feel gilty cause  
we can't afford a worker. The crop is also dying so  
if this keeps going so will colambally dig out.

I am a ~~great~~ great grand son, a grand son, a son  
and mayb a ~~far~~ future farmer if this keeps  
going i want be!

Thomas young

# Mr McCormack

Mr McCormack, the basin plan will affect more people than just the farmers, but the businesses and home owners as well. If this area of farmland can't cope then who's going to supply the supermarkets in cities and towns in NSW. I don't think cities would like to import food from countries that don't have restrictions on chemicals and pesticides used on crops. Besides there is so much water in the rivers at the moment that Darling Point is on high flood warning and Wagga-Wagga is half under water. If any more water is added they will both flood. So in other words the basin plan is a bad idea and will affect everyone.

By Brenton Johnson

Mr McCormack,

Firstly I'd just like to say thanks for giving us the chance to write these letters!

People don't have enough money to buy water. The price will go up and eventually Coleambally will die. Coley is the youngest town in NSW and has been around for a couple of years now, but it's finally coming to an end after several years.

Our local farmers won't have enough money to water their crops and therefore will have to sell them. I'd like to know where will the shops get their wheat, vegies and fruit from if there are no farms to buy it from?

AND finally; what would you do with the land? and where would we move to?

From Louella Cadorin  
daughter of a farmer and  
Granddaughter of a farmer.



# The Murray darling basin plan

To Mr McCormack.

The idea of taking water off the biggest food producing basin in Australia ~~seems like~~ during the drought seems like a strange idea, or an idea that someone who knew nothing about the impacts it would have on the dependent farming communities.

If water becomes more expensive, a lot of farmers will pack up and leave, rather than stay & fight for water. If the farmers leave, then there will not be enough people spending money in shops so shops will close down and before you know it places like Coleambally, Narandera, Leeton, Griffith, Jerilderie and other small towns in the Riverina will start disappearing.

Also, the Murrumbidgee river has already been classified as a working river & sacrifices have already been made by the environment to let the farming area around the Murrumbidgee become one of the biggest food producing bowls in the world. If our communities Australia will have to import even more food from overseas, therefore destroying jobs here.

If our communities ~~go~~ disappear, where will we go, our property will be worth nothing if there is no reason to move here so moving to other towns will be expensive & will overcrowd those towns.

In light of recent floods, the Murray darling basin plan seems pointless. Why send water down an already flooded river? Maybe the recent rain is the start of the drought breaking. In any case, the basin plan does not need to happen this year, and any nutcase who argues that should fly over the Riverina, from Wagona to Dubbo, is under water.

Rosalie McKersie

Mr. McCormack,

if they take the water away the farms ain't going to need as many workers because there won't be as much work, so there for we will have to move ~~away~~ away from family and friends.

Water prices will ~~go~~ go up and no one will be able to ~~buy~~ buy as much, so they won't have as much crops as before so there won't be as much food. So I reckon the plan shouldn't go ahead.

from Cna-ka Sprers

To Michael McCormack,  
I think the murrumbidgee plain is a load of cow  
pads.

My dad is a farmer, he grows rice, wheat, barley & oats.  
he is also a large sheep farmer, he always buys  
chemical at the local elders and CRT. If my dad &  
some other major farmers sold up and left, that  
would have a huge impact in colly.

What is going to happen to us? I like my town,  
just got accepted to Yanco ag (a government funded  
high school where you learn how to farm but I don't  
see how I should go now if the farms are going  
to no longer exist) I'd with ~~most~~ most of our crop  
ruined I don't see how dad can put me and  
my 2 brothers through school.

My step dad also works High track as a ~~diesel~~  
diesel mechanic and if the farmers sell up  
and move on where are the trucks going to  
go? Not to High track any way.

I also think the murrumbidgee has had enough water  
for a LONG time with all of the flood water going  
it to it.

But I reckon it's a load of cow pads if they  
take all of our water and send it down  
the river just to get washed out to sea  
and get salty.

~~These~~ These are only a few of the hundreds  
of things I could say but I'm out of time

yours sincerely  
Stacie Fraser

when there's no farmers it's not to be good cause the farmers won't be able to spend monny at the shops so the shop owners will leave and no one will be able to get food so everyone will leave. and we won't be able to have good convos in class ~~with~~ wick wood suck

yamma  
born

yamma  
bread

yamma  
till im dead

by Lachlan D = 7

Michael McCormack

8-12-10

I believe that Coleambally is a good place to live, it's friendly and you know everyone. If the people who makes this plan go ahead, ~~he~~ thinks that they will be loved by all they wont be, more like hated by all.

If they do go ahead with it then the price of water will go up and farmers will not be able to buy as much water. Soe they wont be able to have as may crops as they do now so there ~~wont~~ will not be as much food as before.

Personally I don't think that the plan was properly thought through in the first place, but that is just my personal opinion.

Annie Mader