

From: [Neal](#)
To: [WaterReformPublicConsultation](#)
Subject: Clean up our rivers
Date: Thursday, 23 January 2014 1:27:25 p.m.

I am a resident of [withheld] and have lived here with my family of four for the last eighteen years. Fifteen years ago when my oldest daughter was still at [withheld] High school, she and her younger siblings and friends would come home from school in the Summer and head to the river for a swim. Weekends were also spent cooling off there. In fact, one of the attractions for us when buying our house was the proximity to the river, as I was fortunate enough to enjoy river swimming as a child, and wanted my own children to have that same experience.....the experience that we should all be able to have as New Zealanders.

Now we are grandparents, and there is no way that our grandchildren are able to swim in their backyard river. It is filthy.

Shame on the people who have let this happen. Is it the dairy farmers? Is it the council? Is it greed that has allowed this to happen?

Money isn't everything.

The whole clean, green New Zealand is a farce, and as a New Zealander I am ashamed of the situation. My husband and I travelled to Europe last year, and on a river cruise up the Danube we saw people swimming in the river, in Vienna we saw people swimming in the river, in Budapest people were swimming in the river. These are major cities in the world.

Tourists will begin to see the real story and will start telling the rest of the world.

We need to stop thinking about the dollar and start thinking about what really matters in life, and as I keep telling anyone who wants to listen, the best things in life are FREE.

Please make our rivers accessible to future generations to enjoy as we have been able to in the past. Its NOT too late. Kathleen Duff, [withheld]

Sent from my iPad