

“Wondaree”
Carrathool
NSW
2711
philippastar@hotmail.com

11th June 2004

Dear Sir,

I'm writing this submission to object to the closure of Murrumbidgee Agricultural College for full time courses. As a former student of the college from 1973- Farm Management Course and 1974- Irrigation Certificate Course and now a local Carrathool district farmer, I believe that the courses have been a great help in my career path.

For any person wanting to be involved in rural careers, Murrumbidgee College has the best facilities, lectures and hands-on farm demonstrations. Social and sporting opportunities allow the students to mix theory with meeting life long friends, who love the land. Murrumbidgee College should not be closed, it should be expanded to take in horticulture, intensive livestock and broad acre farming practises to fulfil Government Occupational Health and Safety requirements and Chemical Users Certificate.

The sixteen and seventeen year olds are not going to travel hundreds of kilometres to Tocal in the Hunter Valley. As the Hunter Valley is more concentrated on small scale intensive farming, Murrumbidgee College provides broad acre and irrigation agriculture, which is not available to Tocal students. The year ten school leavers have nothing available for them locally. It is a must to keep Murrumbidgee College open for full time courses to insure the agriculture industry in rural areas is as informed and up to date as possible, to be leaders in agriculture in the twenty first century.

Yours sincerely,
David Star