

June 2014

Nick

American International School of Budapest

Nagykovacsi ut 12

Nagykovacsi 2094

Hungary

The White House

Attn: President Barack Obama

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue

Washington, DC 20500

United States of America

Dear President Barack Obama,

All the way on the other side of the country, in California, it feels like an oven! In some places it gets so hot that even lakes are giving up. You know. Giving up. Drying up. I bet if you pour a gallon of water on the ground (where a lake should be), the water will be gone in 5 seconds.

As you are probably aware, this extreme period of blazing weather is called a drought. It has occurred everywhere in CA, especially in the middle of the state. CA has around 10% of their wetlands left, which is unfortunate.

Lack of rain is one possibility for creating a drought. But after some research, I discovered that in the Pacific, warm water surrounds cooler water, which carries rain clouds to the North of CA. On top of all of that, people are using too much water, which just makes it worse.

If we dig into this, we will realize that there are more effects from droughts than getting a really bad sunburn. The main problem is running out of one of our most common liquids to keep healthy, water. We can also lose lakes and rivers, which leads to animals and plants dying. Certain jobs, like farmers, can have a lower production rate or even go out of business because of poor crops.

This is always the hard part of problems... Solutions! People can keep CA alive by turning the pressure down on their shower head or take shorter showers. CA is trying technology as an answer to this jaw-dropping (more like sweat-dropping) period of heat. Some tools keep track of water-wastage and special buildings with special roofs (that gather rain) are also in action.

Imagine if you were a farmer and it wasn't your fault that you were slowly losing business because of a drought killing all of your plants. How would you live? How could you pay for basic needs? I wouldn't be able to stand it. So far many people don't see solutions, but I think we can manage to find several. Maybe the solution will be natural. I just want to check droughts off of our problems list.

You're the President of the United States of America! Helping this state is part of your role. You have a choice . . .

... you become an *even better* hero!

*or*

... you let California turn into a barbecue grill!

Do you have any ideas about how to solve this problem? If you do, can you please share them with me in a response? Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Best regards,

Nick

Citizen of U.S.A.

Grade Five Student at the American International School of Budapest