

## **Alysia Kysar to Governor Joan Finney**

Alysia Kysar of Liberal, Kansas, writes Governor Joan Finney of Topeka concerning a water rights conflict at Cheyenne Bottoms wetlands in Barton County, Kansas. Kysar is eleven years old. She argues that the importance of wildlife habitats and communal ownership of natural resources, like water, supercede the rights of individual water users along Wet Walnut Creek. Kysar further questions the suitability of irrigated agriculture to an arid environment. In *Wet Walnut Irrigators v. Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area* (1992), the Kansas Supreme Court ruled in favor of Cheyenne Bottoms, citing its earlier claim to water rights.

Creator: Kysar, Alysia

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## Alysia Kysar to Governor Joan Finney

Alysia Kysar

MARCH 19 1991

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Liberal, Kansas

67901

Governor Finney,

You may already know about the argument between the farmers and the animals in Cheyenne Bottoms. I don't think that farmers have the right to take over animals homes. Most animals were here before they even came. The farmers aren't thinking very much of the animals that they're killing, but only of themselves and their land. Animals should not be wasted, that's all we're doing by killing them is wasting living things. The water is not the farmers, it's the world's. And if they can't grow crops by the amount of rain they get there, they should not be farming in that area!

SINCERELY,

Alysia  
Kysar

AGE: 11

GRADE: 5