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Subject: Online Submission

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MISS Ali Fleming
25 Ryrie AVE
Forestville NSW 2087
Aliifleming22@gmail.com

RE: DA2018/1667 - 181 Allambie Road ALLAMBIE HEIGHTS NSW 2100

This cannot happen. Save the Galaxias
They were here first.

Several years ago, a Save Manly Dam member (Andrew Lo) spotted something amazing in one of the small tributaries of Manly Dam. The Australian Museum confirmed his suspicion that we had a remarkable fish living in our local creeks. The Manly Dam catchment, is home to the most northerly population of climbing fish (Climbing Galaxias) in Australia and they have been living quietly here for an estimated 60 million years ! They breathe through their skin and actually climb up steep rocks using their fins. These fish can only live in cool, unpolluted, freshwater which is why development and encroachment, near creeks, threatens their precarious existence. Manly Dam is also the very last place in Sydney where it's still (just) possible for humans to swim in freshwater

A development application on Crown Land at 181 Allambie, Rd, Allambie Heights for 24 additional retirement units is causing concern. A large part of the development would be located on land identified as a riparian buffer within Curl Curl Creek (The main feeder creek to Manly Dam). The current plan would also involve clearing of bushland and threatened species habitat for fire protection.

Check out the Action Plan to Save the Galaxias (from 2002) which identified the need to protect Manly Dam's tributaries from further degradation-
<http://members.iinet.net.au/~kenhiggs/manlydam/Environment/Galaxias/actionplan.pdf>