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To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Landfill Expansion
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Dear Mayor,

I am submitting this testimony as a member of the community who believes the proposed landfill expansion, if carried out responsibly and transparently, can be a positive and necessary step for both our environment and our community's long-term well-being.

Waste management is an unavoidable reality. Our community—and surrounding counties—must have a safe, regulated, and environmentally controlled place for waste to go. Without adequate capacity, the risks increase elsewhere through illegal dumping, unregulated disposal, and environmental harm that is far more difficult to monitor or prevent. Expansion, when paired with strict oversight, allows waste to be managed in one controlled location rather than scattered across unsafe alternatives.

Environmental protection must remain a priority, and that is exactly why responsible expansion matters. Modern landfill operations already include important safeguards such as separating compost, scrap metal, and other waste streams, as well as actively preventing loose trash from escaping into surrounding areas. These practices are designed to minimize environmental impact and protect nearby land, water, and wildlife. Expanding capacity under existing environmental regulations strengthens—not weakens—our ability to protect the environment.

It is also important to acknowledge that any landfill expansion is subject to legal permits, regulatory review, and environmental standards. These requirements exist specifically to address liability, safety, and environmental concerns. For that reason, opposition based primarily on assumptions or personal fears, rather than verified violations or factual evidence, risks distracting from meaningful oversight. The focus should be on enforcing existing regulations and ensuring compliance, not halting progress based on speculation.

Beyond environmental considerations, this expansion also supports community stability. It has the potential to provide local jobs and sustain essential public services, benefiting families and strengthening the local economy. A well-managed operation means safer working conditions, accountability, and continued investment in our area.

In closing, I ask that this decision be guided by facts, environmental science, and the broader needs of our community. Responsible landfill expansion—done legally, transparently, and with strict environmental safeguards—can protect our environment, support our workforce, and serve the long-term interests of our region.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony on behalf of our community.

Respectfully,
Angelica Hart