

From: [Jon Champney](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony
Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 1:45:57 PM

Subject of Testimony: Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion

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Written Testimony:

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the proposed expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill. I urge you to carefully consider the significant environmental, public health, and community impacts associated with this expansion, as well as the overwhelming concerns voiced by residents who will be directly affected by your decision.

The Coffin Butte Landfill has already placed a substantial burden on the surrounding environment. Expansion would intensify risks to groundwater and surface water through increased leachate production, threatening nearby agricultural lands, private wells, and local waterways. Once groundwater contamination occurs, it is often irreversible and places long-term costs on taxpayers and future generations. Protecting water resources must be a top priority for this county.

Air quality is another serious concern. Expanding the landfill will increase emissions of methane and other harmful gases, as well as odors that negatively impact the quality of life for nearby residents. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, and expanding landfill capacity runs counter to climate responsibility and sustainability goals. Residents should not be expected to bear increased health risks, including respiratory issues and stress-related impacts, for the sake of waste disposal convenience.

The expansion also threatens wildlife habitat and the rural character of the surrounding area. Increased truck traffic, noise, and industrial activity will disrupt ecosystems and degrade farmland that supports the local economy. These impacts disproportionately affect rural residents, raising serious equity concerns about whose voices are prioritized in land-use decisions.

Most importantly, I ask that you listen to the voices of those who live near Coffin Butte and those who have consistently spoken out against this expansion. Public opposition is not rooted in misinformation or resistance to progress—it is grounded in lived experience, environmental stewardship, and concern for long-term consequences. Commissioners are elected to represent the will and well-being of the community, not short-term solutions that create lasting harm.

Rather than expanding Coffin Butte, I urge you to invest in waste reduction strategies, recycling, composting, and alternative approaches that align with environmental responsibility and community values. Expansion is not the only option, nor is it the best one.

I respectfully ask you to deny approval of the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion and to demonstrate your commitment to environmental protection, public health, and democratic accountability by honoring the strong and persistent opposition from the community.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service.

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