

**From:** [Stefanie Foster](#)  
**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony  
**Date:** Friday, January 23, 2026 4:42:13 PM

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Subject of Testimony: Landfill Odor Impacts and Prior DEQ Complaint

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Written Testimony:

I am submitting this written testimony regarding the proposed landfill expansion and the relevance of documented odor impacts to applicable land use criteria.

I previously submitted the following complaint to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on January 16, 2026, during one of the most severe odor events I have experienced. I had trouble submitting via DEQ's online form but emailed the saved PDF of the complaint to Laura McWhorter and the commissioners.

“The landfill gas outside my house this morning was choking my 4-year-old daughter and I as we completed our outdoor chores. I was surprised that the landfill gas reached as far as Chip Ross Park when I went for my morning walk but had to cut it short due to the poor air quality from the landfill. I could smell it even at the top of the hill.”

The odor was strong and distinctive, resembling overcooked broccoli, fecal matter, and rotten meat, and was severe enough to make outdoor activity difficult and unpleasant.

This was not an isolated incident. Prior to January 16, I had smelled landfill odor frequently but did not know how to submit a complaint or to whom. Over time, these odors have repeatedly limited normal outdoor activities for my family and others in multiple locations, including Calloway Creek Trailhead, Peavy Arboretum, Chip Ross Park, and throughout my neighborhood about 4 miles south of the landfill. The odor impacts extend at least 10 miles south of the landfill, well beyond the facility boundary.

These recurring odor events interfere with the normal use and enjoyment of residential areas and public recreation lands and raise concerns about air quality and public health, particularly for children. My experience demonstrates that landfill gas impacts are not adequately contained and affect surrounding communities and public spaces at a significant distance from the facility.

I submit this testimony to document the real-world extent, frequency, and severity of odor impacts and to request that these impacts be fully considered when evaluating whether the proposed expansion complies with applicable land use, environmental protection, and public welfare criteria.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

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