

**From:** [Stephen D Michaels](#)  
**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony  
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Subject of Testimony: DEQ Pre Enforcement Letter

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Written Testimony:

The DEQ pre enforcement letter identified significant operational deficiencies at the landfill. Further, the letter states Valley Landfill has misrepresented required data collection and failed to remedy known issues related to methane escape, cover integrity, dust management and methane flaring. The Board recently approved land fill expansion subject to numerous conditions of approval.

It is clear that the landfill is adversely effecting surrounding permitting uses. Much testimony at previous hearings documented non compliance with the decision criteria. A majority of the Board was unpersuaded by expert testimony in opposition. Going forward, the Board has placed faith that monitoring the landfill will solve adverse impacts. That was an imprudent leap of faith resulting in the approved expansion. The DEQ letter in exacting detail documents existing unmitigated adverse impacts.

The Board now has an opportunity to reverse their inexpert decision. The existing landfill is not in compliance with health standards. How can the Board assume an expanded landfill will comply with standards and not adversely affect surrounding land uses? Obviously, landfill monitoring has not resulted in a compliant landfill. An expanded landfill will only make a bad situation worse.

The Board must protect county citizens and the environment. The way to do that is by rescinding approval of LU-24-027.

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