

From: [L. Stacy Mellem](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 3:02:15 PM

Subject of Testimony: Opposition to the Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion

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Written Testimony:

As a longtime resident of Benton County I strongly oppose the planned expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill. The November 2025 Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) action against the landfill found seven serious environmental violations. Yet Republic Services wants to be rewarded for these illegal actions with permission to expand their operations.

What's important to remember is that this DEQ action comes after YEARS of complaints from citizens citing odor and groundwater contamination. Twice in the last five years only the quick action of the Adair Volunteer Fire Department saved Benton County from devastating wildfires ignited by methane gas from Coffin Butte.

We cannot have a Thriving Community if it is an unhealthy one. We cannot have a Thriving Community if it is not safe. We cannot have a Thriving Community if corporations are allowed to pollute our air and water with impunity.

I urge the County Commissioners to DENY Republic Services' request to expand the landfill operation.

Thank you!

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