

**From:** [Lexi Howell](#)  
**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 30, 2025 1:50:18 PM

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Subject of Testimony: Proponent for Coffin Butte

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Written Testimony:

9/17/2025

Benton County Board of Commissioners  
North Lincoln Sanitary Service

Dear Benton County Board of Commissioners:

As a third-generation family business member in the solid waste industry and a proponent of the proposed expansion, I want to share what the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion means for communities like ours.

When the Riverbend Landfill closed in 2021, overnight our hauling time to the landfill from our transfer station increased by about an hour, which had a direct impact on rates for our customers. If Coffin Butte does not expand, the alternative would mean hauling even farther — as much as 229 miles to Arlington. The impact on ratepayers would be extraordinary, with the highest increase in decades. For a rural, retirement community like ours, keeping garbage service affordable is a top priority, and expansion is essential to make that possible

Beyond cost, there is value in knowing where our waste goes and having a landfill we can see, visit, and understand. Coffin Butte provides tours for our local students, sparking important conversations about sustainability and personal responsibility. Landfills in Oregon today are highly regulated, safe facilities that provide livable-wage jobs and play an essential role in communities across Oregon.

The reality is that we all generate waste, and pretending it can be “out of sight, out of mind” does a disservice to the next generation. Expanding Coffin Butte means affordable service for families, accountability for where our waste goes, and opportunities to inspire young people to think about how they can make a difference.

Sincerely,  
Lexi Howell

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