

From: [Margaret Herring](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony
Date: Monday, October 6, 2025 12:47:51 PM

Subject of Testimony: reject Landfill Expansion

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Written Testimony:

I wish to speak to the matter of undue burden and reasons to deny this proposal outright. This proposed landfill expansion puts undue burden on the residents of Benton County, currently and for years to come. And yet, any discussion of that burden has not been allowed within the narrow limits imposed by the county's legal counsel. When state and federal agencies responsible for environmental oversight are not living up to those oversight responsibilities, doesn't that put an undue burden on county government? And when a county government is already short-staffed and unable to monitor and evaluate environmental impacts, doesn't that put an undue burden on county citizens? And when county staff are advised by legal counsel to dismiss evidence collected from credible public sources (such as the EPA and DEQ) as merely "anecdotal", doesn't that put an undue burden on these hearings to fairly consider the facts at hand? Why would Benton County commissioners choose to place layers of undue burden on their citizens by permitting this expanding source of toxic pollution that reaches far beyond what we can see or smell. Whatever short-term windfall of money the county will receive from this deal will not cover the enormous and undue burden the citizens of Benton County face now and will face when this landfill eventually closes and requires an expensive environmental cleanup. The citizens of Benton County have provided credible, verifiable, and incriminating evidence of the toxicity of this landfill and its expanding undue burden to Benton County and beyond. This proposal cannot be fixed by a smokescreen of conditions. I urge county commissioners to protect the future of Benton County and reject this proposal outright.

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