

From: [Dennis Simmons](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony
Date: Thursday, October 16, 2025 11:11:22 AM

Subject of Testimony: Coffin Butte should be approved

Full Name: Dennis Simmons

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Written Testimony:

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Dennis Simmons, and I've been a business owner in Corvallis since 2007, working for the company I bought since 1995. I operate a local car company, G&J Auto Sales, and, more than that, I've spent most of my life in this area. I grew up here, I raised my family here, and I've built a business here. I've seen firsthand how much this community values sustainability, responsibility, and affordability—and I try to reflect those values every day in how I run my business.

I'm writing today to urge your support for the conditional land use permit for the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion. I understand this is not an easy or popular issue. But for those of us who live and work here, it's a very real one.

Every business—whether it's in manufacturing, retail, or the auto industry—generates waste. And every business depends on reliable, affordable waste disposal to operate efficiently. If those costs rise, they don't just hit the bottom line—they get passed on to customers, or they force hard choices about staffing and services. That's the reality of doing business in Benton County, where operating costs already run high compared to many other parts of the state. If the landfill isn't expanded, waste will have to be hauled farther—and that means higher fuel costs, longer transport times, and steeper fees for disposal. For small and mid-sized businesses like mine, those costs add up fast. And they get passed down again—to families, to consumers, and to local governments trying to stretch every tax dollar.

This isn't about whether anyone wants a landfill. I don't. No one does. But we have to be realistic: this is the infrastructure that keeps our communities functioning. Approving this permit gives us time—time to explore better, long-term alternatives while keeping disposal affordable in the short term. It's the kind of practical decision that keeps businesses viable and local economies stable.

I've spent a lifetime here, and I want to see this region grow stronger, not more expensive and harder to live in. That starts with making smart, balanced choices about infrastructure—and that includes waste management.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Dennis Simmons

Owner, G&J Auto Sales

Corvallis, Oregon

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