From: <u>Timothy Eastridge</u>

To: Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals

Subject: WEB FORM SUBMISSION - LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Testimony

Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 6:27:39 PM

Subject of Testimony: support for Coffin Butte Landfill expansion

Full Name: Timothy Eastridge

Email: tim.eastridge@ci.monroe.or.us

Mailing Address: Monroe, OR 97456

Written Testimony:

Public Testimony in Support of the Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion Submitted by Timothy Eastridge, President, Monroe Rural Fire Protection District; Planning Commission Vice Chair, City of Monroe October 20, 2025

Chair and Commissioners,

I'm writing to you in support of the Coffin Butte landfill expansion because rural communities like mine cannot afford another price hike, and as a Planning Commissioner who was startled and disturbed by the actions of the Benton County Planning Commission.

In my role as President of the Monroe Rural Fire Protection District, my duty is to oversee the financial operations of the board and ensure we provide the highest level of service to our taxpayers. We serve an expansive rural district in Benton County that covers the City of Monroe and several unincorporated communities including Alpine, Bellfountain, Glenbrook, Ingram Island and Irish Bend.

I also serve as the Vice Chair of the Planning Commission for the City of Monroe. Trust me, my neighbors have A LOT of emotions about changes to our small community, and the planning commissioners I serve with show up with integrity and discipline in our decisions.

We are seeking a UGB expansion in our growing community, so I dove into this Coffin Butte expansion issue because the cost of disposal impacts the cost of construction, and it's a service we need for our community to grow.

The more I learned about the Planning Commission's July decision, the more furious I became.

It makes absolutely no sense to me to deny approval for a parcel of land on a private property that has already been zoned for landfill use for decades and meets all code requirements. What were those wayward Benton County Planning Commissioners trying to prove?

When a board or commission decides to overreach because they follow their emotions over the facts, that is a big, big problem. They are an advisory board – and they failed in their volunteer duty to advise appropriately.

Commissioners, it is now YOUR JOB – you are the PAID executive and legislative body of our county – to make the final judgement.

I don't understand what the problem is. The answer is obvious. Approve the Coffin Butte landfill expansion and let's put this embarrassing chapter of emotional over reach behind us.

Timothy Eastridge, Monroe OR

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