

LU-24-027 IN-PERSON TESTIMONY SUBMITTAL COVER SHEET

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Written Testimony Regarding Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion

Submitted to: Benton County Board of Commissioners and Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals

From: Commissioner Bubba King, Yamhill County

Date: 10/23/25

Address: 507 N Meridian St, Newberg, OR 97132

Subject: Response to Misrepresentation in Letter Submitted by Joel Geier

I am submitting this testimony to correct the record and respond to the letter submitted by Mr. Joel Geier on October 19, 2025, concerning the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion and my position as a Yamhill County Commissioner.

Mr. Geier's letter misrepresents the nature and content of our brief conversation. At no point did I request or authorize him to include our exchange as part of the official testimony record. His characterization of my position and the context of that discussion is inaccurate and does not reflect my intent, statements, or reasoning regarding the landfill expansion proposal.

Commitment to Regional Responsibility and Yamhill County Residents

Yes, I am a regenerative farmer, and I have worked hard to maintain margins under the economic pressures that all agricultural producers face — rising costs, volatile markets, and environmental responsibilities. My perspective on waste management and regional sustainability stems from this lived experience and my commitment to stewardship and practicality.

Yamhill County residents, businesses, cities, and farmers all depend on affordable and reliable waste disposal. Coffin Butte Landfill currently provides the most sustainable, cost-effective option available to our region. Requiring waste to be transported nearly 400 miles round trip to Arlington would create unnecessary environmental impacts, strain transportation infrastructure, and impose significant financial burdens on ratepayers and local governments alike.

Support for the Expansion and Call for Constructive Dialogue

My support for the proposed Coffin Butte expansion remains grounded in the practical needs of the communities we serve. Expanding capacity at Coffin Butte is essential to maintaining continuity in regional waste management while alternative and complementary strategies continue to be developed.

Conclusion

In summary, the letter submitted by Mr. Geier does not accurately reflect my views or the substance of our communication. I remain committed to transparency, collaboration, and to serving the best interests of Yamhill County residents and our regional partners through a balanced and responsible approach to waste management.

Respectfully submitted,
Commissioner Bubba King
Yamhill County Board of Commissioners
