

**From:** [Bethany Dengler-Germain](#)  
**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony Against Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion LU-24-027  
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Dear Benton County Commissioners,

My name is Bethany Dengler-Germain and I live at 660 SW 56th St, Corvallis, OR 97333. I grew up most of my life in Corvallis in the Lewisburg area near the Coffin Butte Landfill where my dad still lives on Overlook Drive, but now I live with my husband and kids near the Benton County Fairgrounds. I am submitting this testimony in response to two others already in the Board of Commissioners Reconsideration record, as relates to the DEQ Pre-Enforcement Notice (PEN):

Janet Ohmann's testimony (Record ID: BOC4\_T0780)  
Faye Yoshihara's testimony (Record ID: BOC4\_T0778)

I originally submitted testimony against the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion last year and have been at many of the Commissioner hearings and have been following this case for a long time. Part of why I'm so invested is since I am personally **very** negatively impacted on the many days, especially this last year, like today 2/3/26 where there is no wind, we have stagnant air warnings, and it's what we now call "dump days." The air smells acrid like rotting garbage even at our house all the way at 56th Street, far from the landfill. I have on and off again asthma and long Covid breathing problems, which when the air quality is good are now controlled thankfully with a daily inhaler.

However, now with the increasing number of dump days including 1/13/26, the bad air quality gives me horrible headaches and I have to use my rescue inhalers and sometimes nebulizer breathing treatments. I never had to use these before when I was a kid in the Lewisburg area, but as an adult in Corvallis since 2020 I've noticed **more than 40 bad dump days** when the horrible odors from the landfill cause my husband, two kids, and myself health problems including headaches, nausea, breathing issues, and we often feel dizzy and it prevents our normal outdoor recreation activities. The odor has gotten a lot more severe since summer 2025 and I have smelled the rotting garbage all across town, including but not limited from the Market of Choice parking lot on 9th Street, downtown near the Corvallis Public Library on Monroe Avenue, at our house on 56th Street, and out by Lewisburg on Mountain View Drive (from July 2025 through February 2026).

As a wildlife biologist, Environmental Scientist who has studied air, water, soil, and groundwater pollution for 15+ years, I have done a lot of my own research, reviewed excellent testimony by independent scientists and experts, and understand the momentous negative environmental and quality of life impacts for wildlife, humans, and livestock including horses and cattle the current Coffin Butte landfill has, let alone the proposed expansion. I'm very glad the DEQ PEN with seven severe and troubling Class 1 violations have now been entered into the public record. As a mother, person living with asthma and long-Covid breathing issues made much worse by the odor and reduced air quality that stings our eyes and throats, prevents us from playing outside and rolling down our car windows, and someone who has

always loved the Corvallis area and hopes to retire and live at our family house on Overlook Drive I really hope at least Commissioner Nancy Wyse to reconsider her vote. I'm proud of Commissioner Gabe Shepard for asking important questions and reading/reflecting on the overwhelming evidence and excellent testimony against the expansion.

In closing, I strongly oppose the conditional use permit application for expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill and urge you to deny Application LU-24-027.

Sincerely,

Bethany Dengler-Germain