

From: [Shaen Germain](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Written testimony against Coffin Butte Landfill expansion odor issue LU-24-027
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 3:41:16 PM

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Dear Benton County Commissioners,

My name is Shaen Germain living at 660 SW 56th St, Corvallis, OR 97333. My wife Bethany grew up in Corvallis near the Coffin Butte Landfill in the Lewisburg area where my father-in-law still lives on Overlook Drive. My wife, two kids, and I now live beyond 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) and Faye Yoshihara's testimony (Record ID: BOC4_T0778).

I have been following the Commissioner hearings and this case for a long time, and my wife and I originally submitted testimony against the Coffin Butte Landfill expansion last year. My family and I have all been **very negatively impacted** on the many dump days, **especially 1/13/26 and today 2/3/26**, with stagnant air and bad garbage odor. The air smells horrible like garbage even at our house on 56th Street not near the landfill. My wife, son and I all have asthma and are very sensitive unfortunately to bad air quality - usually not a problem but on dump days we feel horribly sick now.

With the increasing number of dump days including in December 2025 and Jan. 2026, the bad air quality gave us horrible headaches and we've noticed **more than 38 bad dump days** when the bad odors from the landfill cause my wife, kids, and me health problems including breathing issues, headaches, nausea, and we often feel dizzy - we're sad it prevents our normal outdoor recreation activities. The odor has gotten a lot worse since mid-summer 2025 and we have smelled the acrid garbage all across town, including from Circle Boulevard and 9th Street, near CHS, at our house on 56th Street, and out on Mountain View Drive.

I've reviewed great testimony by scientists and experts, folks that live on and near Soap Creek Road, and understand the huge negative environmental and quality of life impacts for humans, livestock, and wildlife the Coffin Butte landfill causes. And that is made worse by the threat of expansion into a wetlands never made for a huge landfill or infill development. I'm relieved the DEQ PEN with 7 Class 1 violations have been entered into the public record. My family's lives have been made much worse by the odor and crappy air quality that hurts our throats and eyes, we can't roll down our car windows, and we can't exercise outside without triggering asthma on dump days. I'm proud Commissioner Gabe Shepard was clear and well spoken about the overwhelming evidence and great testimony against the expansion. I hope Commissioner Wyse will reconsider her vote as she mentioned now with the DEQ violations and all this new evidence.

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

Sincerely,

Shaen Germain