

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

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IDENTIFIER: TD731

Testimony submitted January 20, 2026

LU-24-027

Mark Yeager, Helm Drive, Corvallis

  
**RECEIVED**

JAN 20 2026

**Benton County  
Board of Commissioners**

**INQUIRY AT BOCC HEARING, 1-20-26**

I have questions for Commissioner Malone. These refer to the Oregon Legislature's Joint Task Force on Municipal Solid Waste in the Willamette Valley. Commissioner, you chair the task force, is that correct?

1. Please state the nature of the task force, and its duties. What are the issues the task force is to address regarding Coffin Butte?

2. What discussions have you had with any other Benton County commissioner regarding the task force? What was the substance of those discussions? What about emails? Please produce them.

3. What discussions have you had with other local elected officials about Coffin Butte? What was the substance of those discussions? Have you exchanged emails with such elected officials regarding the lifespan of the landfill? Please produce them.

4. Julie Jackson, a representative of the applicant, Republic Services, is on the task force. What have you discussed with her about the continued life of the landfill? What was the substance of the discussion? Have you received any emails from her? Please produce them. Same questions as to anyone else employed by or representing Republic Services in these proceedings.

5. What discussions concerning Coffin Butte have you had with any members of the Task Force other than at a recorded meeting of the task force? Any emails? Please produce them.

6. What have been the discussions of Coffin Butte at the task force's sole meeting on December 16? Any concerns Coffin Butte may close too soon? Have you discussed the need to extend its life? The cost of alternative waste management alternatives? Coffin Butte's importance to elected officials from other jurisdictions who are on the task force? What has been the substance of those discussions?

7. Since the time of the Board's original decision in this case, have you had any discussions with anyone about how important it is for Coffin Butte to continue operating, or for its life to be extended? With whom? When? What was the substance of the conversation?

8. As to ex parte communications disclosed today, we note that no public testimony will be accepted today. We request the opportunity to rebut the content of those communications once the written record opens.

9. The Task Force has two upcoming meetings between now and the scheduled date for the Board's deliberations on reconsideration. I request that at the time set for the Board's deliberations, any further ex parte communications and statements of bias or prejudgment be disclosed, and the opportunity for rebuttal of those ex parte communications be provided.