

Cover Page Submission from Pat Wheeler

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This folder contains:

- 1) This cover page.
- 2) My January 26, 2026 comment letter.
- 3) The Zoom recording of the November 12, 2025 Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC) meeting. The discussion of the DEQ letter is on section 01:01-01:23.
- 4) The agenda for the January 14, 2026 DSAC meeting. Republic Services was scheduled to follow up on the discussion of the DEQ letter and also to present a 2024 Annual Report. This meeting was cancelled by the county.

TO: Commissioners Malone, Shepherd and Wyse

January 26, 2026

RE: Expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill

The DEQ letter lists multiple violations of EPA and DEQ regulations by Republic Services spanning the period of 2022 through 2025 (at least four years). Most of these are Class 1 violations that present a serious threat to environmental and public health.

The DEQ letter brings to light three issues that should be considered at this time:

- 1) Current maintenance and management of the Coffin Butte landfill are not in compliance with state and federal regulations.
- 2) From 2022-2025 Republic Services has not provided accurate or timely information to Benton County regarding compliance with state and federal regulations. See recording of DSAC November 12, 2025 meeting discussion of the DEQ letter (section 01:01-01:23) posted on county webpage for DSAC.
- 3) Increased monitoring for compliance is only an initial step in review and does not ensure enforcement. As illustrated by proceedings from 2022-2025, actual enforcement can be a very slow process and would not be guaranteed by increased monitoring at the county level.

The burden of proof is on the applicant to demonstrate that they can and do operate the landfill safely and in compliance with EPA and DEQ regulations. Republic Services has not provided convincing evidence that they have or could comply with these regulations. Their application for expansion should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Wheeler".

Pat Wheeler
12090 Rolling Hills Rd
Monmouth, OR 97361

Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC)

AGENDA

January 14, 2026

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

4500 SW Research Way, Corvallis, OR 97333

This meeting will be held in-person. The meeting will be accessible online for those unable to attend.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88247921911?pwd=EQu4Ofo6VVJNGuVr9KmWhTx96R6LKs.1>

Meeting ID: 882 4792 1911

Passcode: 680718

DSAC website with meeting materials, including the meeting packet:

<https://cd.bentoncountyor.gov/disposal-site-advisory-committee-dsac>

Agenda Item #	Start Time	Duration	Topic	Speaker(s)
1	6:00 p.m.	5 min.	Call to Order and welcome new members	Chair
2	6:05 p.m.	15 min.	Public comment – your comments welcome. Each commenter is generally limited to 3 minutes.	Public
3	6:20 p.m.	5 min.	Update on DEQ Pre-Enforcement Notice	Paul K.
4	6:25 p.m.	5 min.	Review and approve the draft of the last meeting's minutes and action items.	Committee
5	6:30 p.m.	5 min.	Facility remarkable actions since last meeting	Paul K.
6	6:35 p.m.	10 min.	Fire Safety - update	David H.
7	6:45 p.m.	15 min.	Updates from Sub-Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odors, Methane, Title V permit • Groundwater, Leachate • Community Engagement 	Committee
8	7:00 p.m.	5 min.	Break	Committee
9	7:05 p.m.	45 min.	Presentation of the 2024 Coffin Butte Annual Report	Paul K., Committee
10	7:50 p.m.	5 min.	Vice-chair election	Committee
11	7:55 p.m.	5 min.	Request Agenda Items, staff requests for next meeting	Committee