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**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** lu24-027 reconsideration BOC hearing public comment to the record, Jan 27 2026  
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Jan 27, 2026

Dear BOC,

I concur with Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann Jan 23, 2026 testimony to LU24-027 reconsideration hearing Nov 6, 2025 DEQ PEN.

In 2024, the BC Planning Commission asked BC Planning Dept. Staff during LU24-025 CUP hearing, if violations of DEQ Standards could also be considered violations of CUP? Possibly what the Planning Dept. shared then, to the PC applies in Jan 27, 2026 review of PEN?

Methane and PFAS:

Methane contains PFAS, a forever chemical, carcinogenic when absorbed, ingested and breathed in. PFAS does not go away, or neutralize when methane gas is combusted.

The Nov 6, 2025 DEQ PEN is supported by DEQ Permit # 02-9502-TV-01 Republic Service Valley Landfill Inc. as a TitleV-ACD(Air contamination discharge) permit.

*PFAS and Forever Chemicals please see:*

- Hogue, Cheryl (27 May 2019). ["A guide to the PFAS found in our environment". Chemical & Engineering News.](#) 97 (21): 12. [doi:10.1021/cen-09721-polcon2](https://doi.org/10.1021/cen-09721-polcon2). ISSN 2474-7408. S2CID 199655540.

- [Ashley, M. Lin et al "Occurrence , Fate and Transport Of Contaminants in indoor air and atmosphere Landfill Gas: A major pathway for Neutral Per- and Polyfluoroalky Substances\(PFAS\)" . Env. Science and Technology Letters Vol. 11 Issue 7 Jun 26, 2024.](#)

PFAS is being pumped into the area around the landfill's air shed potentially by the ton over x amount of time from all located, and unlocated methane leak points in the open and closed landfill cells.

PFAS is being emitted by the ton, into the atmosphere at the Republic Service gas flare's and North West Natural Co generation Plant flare.

PFAS may not be considered an air pollutant, that is regulated in the DEQ's TitleV Air Contamination Discharge Permit for Republic Services, Valley Landfill Inc. The Nov 6, 2025 DEQ PEN is supported by 02-9502-TV-01 Republic Service Valley Landfill Inc. TitleVACD permit.

PFAS and this family of forever chemicals are direct cancer causing pollutants, that remain in human body for up to 8 years.

100's of Children at Santiam Christian K-12 School in Adair Village, and at Nature's Way Preschool in Adair Village, the elderly in Adair village are exposed to CBRlandfill generated PFAS, in the atmosphere together with sulfer smelling mixture of landfill gas as an odor trespass.

For days, in January 2026, all these students can not go outside during dump days and inversions of polluted air in this Adair Village area. Natures Way Preschool shared on Jan 27, 2026, that their building's filter HVAC system is unable to remove landfill derived odor from incoming air.

Both these school's operation and function are interrupted by landfill odor pollution and teaching is being directly negatively impacted. The health and safety of these schools students and staff are damaged by landfill odor trespass onto these school private properties and buildings.

Parents will have to decide to remove their students from these schools, during dump days, and this causes negative economic impacts for both of these schools.

All the residents in Adair Village are exposed to odorless methane and other landfill/PRC derived, toxic and carcinogenic landfill gases, dusts and PFAS family of Forever chemicals.

Landfill staff, trash company drives, and the public are exposed to landfill gases, when they are at this landfill as methane is odorless.

Methane is a long lived, strong green house gas. Methane generation should be acknowledged as such within, LU24-027 CUP 2025 where global warming is not discussed as part of the BC Code. Landfill gas generated methane impacts to the community next to this landfill, and in the area of

impact, in LU24-027's 9 mile radius, out from CBRLandfill for odor evaluation.

Polk County odor reporting to the DEQ, should be considered within the 9 Mile radius for odor , also, in LU24-027 and this PEN.

Odor reports in public testimony to LU24-027CUP number in the dozens, and addresses are listed in order to map and track where odor is noted to LU24-027 PC and BOC, from the operation of this landfill, and for the known, negative impacts to area residents use, health and safety concerns while they are using, and enjoying their properties and homes.

PEN and seven Class 1 violations:

BC, as HOST is party to Republic Service generating methane gas as noted in the PEN in seven DEQ Class 1 violations.

BC as HOST should acknowledge in LU24-027 CUP and in the PEN, discussions that may or may take place, that Methane as a potent global green house gas, which is damaging and will continue to damage the earth's atmosphere.

BC Code may not have anything in it to address global warming or environmental damage caused by a land use. Landfill Zone may have no code in it that addresses environmental damages locally, regionally, or globally because of the operation of a Regional Landfill in this BC Landfill Zone.

BC has not enforced any Conditions of Approval to this landowner. Conditions of approval are designed to be environmentally beneficial.

This landfill possibly ranks as one of the largest methane generators in the U.S., and in Oregon it may be the top generator of methane.

E.E Wilson Wildlife refuge guests as recreational users, and all area landowners are being exposed to airborne carcinogens and methane, which is an odorless gas, mixed into sulfur rich,hazardous, or toxic airborne landfill

generated chemicals which are noted to be released under law by the ton, TitleV ACD Permit.

Humans in this landfill area are sacrificing their health as they go about living on their properties, and using E.E. Wilson in this health, life and safety sacrifice zone, every day, as methane is odorless.

BC 53.215 proposed use, in the Nov 6, 2025 DEQ PEN, and in LU24-027 pending expansion application, are and will continue to create air pollution, that seriously interferes, every day, every hour, every minute, with adjacent properties owners health and safety, their pets health and safety, their farm animals health and safety, continues to directly negativley impact the value and character of this landfill area.

School operation's in Adair Village are continuing to be negatively impacted, by PEN methane release volume, and are impacting BC and Polk County residents, out many miles, into Polk County, Corvallis, North Albany, Soap Creek Valley... to where people who are not near this landfill, are reporting landfill odor to the DEQ and to BOC.

DEQ pollution Reporting system, and BOC public comment about Landfill ODOR:

The DEQ on line pollution reporting system is pledged with failure to operate, week on week, and remains, difficult to use, regardless of how many public ask the DEQ, to make this online pollution reporting system easier to use.

When residents contact the BOC, the Commission is being informed by residents of what is going on in Benton and Polk Counties with poor air quality from this landfill for example.

The BOC and their support staff, represent the people they serve and ODOR reports to the BOC should be honored and not devalued as wrongly reported, or extra out of hearing contacts, but as direct communications, from the public, to BOC, by the public, who are directly impacted by operations of CBRLandfill.

With continued landfill expansions, the landfill generated odor problem will increase, and more PEN notices will have to be initiated by the EPA and DEQ.

#### 60.205 Conditional Use subject to approval:

Landfill zone operations continue to damage private property with litter trespassing onto private land. Litter from CBRL and which is transported to CBRL impacts the health and safety of livestock, family pets. Litter trespass continues to cost area landowners time and money to have to constantly clean up their pastures, or their area roadways along their properties, from litter coming from the operation of the landfill, and from trash going to CBRL.

Unlimited dumping as written into the '2022-2040 Franchise Operation Agreement' by BOC will increase area litter along roadsides and which is trespassed into, private property.

Republic Services has no control over billions of tons of litter coming into the landfill, and being compressed into this very wet area of the Willamette Valley, trash will continue to coat the roadsides, and continue to negatively impact area farms and ranches livestock, pets and wildlife.

#### Fire and methane gas volumes in the PEN:

Methane gas becomes explosive, when in contact with air.

Fire danger risk from Methane gas, is detailed in the PEN. Methane gas generation and methane gas fire danger at CBRlandfill, should not be ignored in PEN discussion by BOC for LU24-027CUP reconsideration.

BC has not included this landfill in a Regional Area Fire Mg. Plan. BC Talks Trash noted this.

The PEN shares that this landfill leaks methane at very high amounts and has earned seven Class 1 violations, the highest violation from the DEQ.

How safe is this landfill from landfill fire linked to methane gas generation?\_

*As stated in: TitleVACD page 95 of 133:*

OAR340-236-0500 New Source Performance Standards NSPS

Subpart XXX, applies as this landfill expands, in LU24-027 CUP 2025 to more capacity, and institutes unlimited dumping, under 2022-2040 Franchise Operation Agreement.

The tonnage cap is going away, as designed between BOC and Republic Service in the ‘2022-2040 Franchise Operation Agreement.’ BC will have lost the last of it’s control over this landfill with this tonnage cap being removed.

This PEN does not take into account the expansion application site and a new TitleVACD permit will have to be created, for this expansion, if the current TitleVACD permit is still based on 2014 data, and may not also, incorporate Cell 6, and each landfill expansion over time from 2024 in the Cell 6 area.

The 2024 Site Development Plan for Cell 6 is not noted in LU24-027CUP.

BC, as HOST to this landfill receives tipping fees, and these fees will increase with agreed upon unlimited dumping, and BC will receive one million dollars per year from Republic Services, under ‘2022-2040 Franchise Operation Agreement’, when LU24-027 CUP passes into law. BC BOC work together with Republic Ser v

BC ‘Thriving Community Initiative’ was developed to support health and safety of BC. BC Community Health Dept. is still noted as a legal participant in the ‘2022-2040 Franchise Operating Agreement’, but landfill health and safety currently are as stated, the responsibility of BC Planning Dept.

BC Planning Dept. may be unable to implement health and safety concerns, so this falls to the DEQ, who are also, unaware, understaffed or are unable to monitor this landfill, but from the data that are submitted as fact to the DEQ from Republic Services, for this PEN and for all other permits to run this Regional Landfill from the DEQ.

This landfill needs to close.

BC Talks Trash worked on bring light to this critical timing for the closure process. Cell 6 buys BC time to undertake closure proceedings.

BC trash can be shipped to the Columbia Gorge by train for less cost and less impacts on the environment, then having trash driven every day, to this landfill, totaling up millions of miles of driving per year, from BC to this Landfill, by Republic Service and the public to tip trash.

Coffin Butte Road and Fire evacuation:

Reported and unreported to BC or DEQ, landfill fires will continue to occur here. With LU24-027 passing into law, when this first Southern landfill expansion closes, Coffin Butte Road will be closed and people will have to drive north on Wiles road to Robison Road, or use Tampico, or Soap Creek Road's to escape area wildfires, started from trash embers flying up from landfill trash from Nov 6, 2025 DEQ PEN noted methane gas mg. System is failed, or is nonoperational, or has been newly under built, or is under reported as leaking methane by the owner, or is said by the landowner, to not be accessible landfill slope angle to gather data from for methane gas volume leakage.

Life and Safety where ignored by the applicant in LU24-025 CUP with the all at once closure of Coffin Butte Road in 2024. BC Planning dept in 2024, concurred with Republic Service, to close Coffin Butte Road with LU24-025CUP, with no public notice using a Road Vacation Form.

LU24-027 CUP is the same as LU24-025 CUP 2022. The tonnage cap is going away, LU24-27 CUP creates a larger landfill, with unlimited dumping, this south expansion will fill fast and close in three or four years. Republic Services will file a Road Vacation Form, to BC, with zero public notice, for the closure of Coffin Butte Road.

Fire safety at this regional landfill, are not detailed in this PEN, but the PEN provides clear evidence for the extreme fire danger we face from this landowner's continued noted by DEQ and EPA operation standard, of this Regional Landfill, in the wrong environmental location. Too much methane

gas is being generated all over this landfill and it is leaking into the atmosphere.

This landfill owner can not keep up with methane leakage here, as per the PEN's findings.

Carbon and methane gas generation:

Tons of carbon are buried in CBRLandfill each day, and this results in methane gas genesis, which is documented and defined in the PEN, in this very wet and difficult to keep dry location, for a Regional Landfill. BC is the responsible party as HOST for wastes purchased to be landfilled at CB, from Oregon, Washington and for all untreated raw medical waste purchased by Republic Services to be buried at CBRL.

Medical waste contains tons of carbon.

Leachate:

Building trash up against wet basalt land forms, of both Coffin Butte and Tampico Ridge where dozens of water table's in these geologic layer caked land forms are draining onto, around, under and into stored trash layers. As trash cells fail, they fill with water and generate landfill leachate.

Leachate volume generation will increase with each expansion. PEN talks about leachate in TitleV02-9502-TV-01 Republic Services Valley Landfill Inc.

Closure:

The Nov 6, 2025 DEQ PEN is a warning to BC of significantly hazardous/explosive conditions exist at this landfill.

The landfill needs to close. BC as HOST should begin the agreed upon closure procedures, and rerouting BC trash to the Columbia Gorge via Rail trash service from Albany or from the Pacific Regional Recycling Center's rail line.

Trash Rate increase and recycling experience:

Municipal trash rate payers in BC are paying too much for their municipal trash contracts. With more 2025 recycling in Oregon, our trash cans are about empty, every week. All public rate payers in BC can not save money from Rep. Ser because we have a  $\frac{3}{4}$  empty trash can every other week.

There is a rate increase coming to BC by Rep. Ser in 2026. We will pay even more, for a  $\frac{1}{4}$  full 35 gallon municipal trash can for example, every week, which generates more money for BC in tipping fees, and is free profits for Republic Services.

BC municipal trash rate payers who recycle, are currently generating less trash per week, and adding less carbon to the landfill from BC with Recycle On Oregon. Trash rate payers, are paying Rep. Service, more in fees, for them to take away air and truck air to Coffin Butte.

By closing this landfill, methane production will start to decrease as carbon inputs decrease and stop.

We are already recycling as much as possible, in BC. In Oregon this may be a different story, and more carbon rich wastes are and will be coming into BC from further and further away, with unlimited dumping to start, with LU24-027 CUP passage into law, and the build out of LU24-027. With less volume of trash coming from BC municipal rate payers due to their recycling, and Recycle On Oregon employees working to process our recycled materials that are hopefully not being buried in CBRLandfill.

For this Regional Landfill's closure process, BC may consider hiring a landfill operations company other then Republic Services to close and run this landfill for 30 years after closure.

When the DEQ issues civil penalties to this landowner, in the PEN, BC will stand by this landowner, as a financially beneficial HOST, and allow Republic Service to keep operating this landfill in the totally wrong environmental location. BC and it's residents as captive by Republic Service as the only waste hauler around, could decide, at this time, to close this Regional Landfill, and decide, to can be send BC municipal trash to the Columbia Gorge, saving money for municipal rate payers and generating less fossil fuel carbon waste in miles by Rail, for our BC trash.

Everyone will be happier knowing they will be saving money, in trash rates, and who will be better protecting the environment at the same time, knowing this landfill will close, generate less methane and landfill Odor

over time, and be a significantly positive to all of BC/Polk County current and future residents of Benton and Polk Counties.

Same goes for all the other counties and States who are and will be trucking their trash to this landfill, generating tons of carbon every day in burning fossil fuels, or natural gas, to move trash to this landfill. Burning fossil fuel and natural gas, adds tons of carbon into the atmosphere.

More carbon, in unlimited trash volume adds to the problem of methane generation, from all over this landfill, generating more and more methane in this wet location as defined in the PEN.

Cell 6 may be generating at this time, the most surface run off, and larger volumes per day, of new landfill leachate not calculated in the Solid Waste Disposal Permit 306 or in the TitleVACD permit 02-9502-TV-01 the PEN is supported by.

Tampico Ridge's hydrology was not clearly discussed in LU24-027 as springs and seeps are missing from LU 24-027 CUP's application's discussion. Methane generation and global warming impacts, from LU24-027 expansion site, was not discussed in the application. BC as HOST will be responsible for Republic Services operation at CBRLandfill, and for tons of methane gas it generates and does not burn, and is allowed to be directly released, into the atmosphere, from every part of CBRegional Landfill. Closure of this built in the wrong location, Regional for profit for Republic services only, landfill, should begin closure proceedings, now, while we still have time left in Cell 6's 11-17 years, to do so.

Thanks for your consideration and time in reviewing PEN together with LU24-027CUP. Regards, R.Foster 980 SE Mason Place, Corvallis, OR.

