

**From:** [Nancy Yialouris](#)  
**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** RE: LU-24-027; Public Testimony: Coffin Butte expansion permit  
**Date:** Thursday, September 18, 2025 12:02:44 PM

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To: Benton County Board of Commissioners  
RE: Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion Application Appeal  
September 17, 2025

Dear Commissioners, Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

My name is Nancy Yialouris. I have an Albany address but I am a Benton County resident. I'm writing because our neighborhood is affected by the odors that are emitted from the Coffin Butte Landfill. Our neighborhood is located east of Independence Highway, between that highway and Scenic Rd. Any time there is a stagnant air alert or a heat inversion, we smell the gases that are emitted from the landfill. The odor is so strong we can smell it inside our house.

In the summer, we often are awakened by the stench and have to close the windows at night because the noxious odor permeates the area. During the fall and winter, if the winds are blowing from a westerly direction we smell the odor inside the house with the windows closed. I have smelled the dump, not only in our neighborhood, but clear into Corvallis proper as well as down along the Ellington Street area in Albany. The issue of odor has consistently been minimized at public meetings despite the number of residents who have brought the issue to the attention of landfill officials.

I have filed several complaints with the DEQ and have received contact from that office regarding these concerns. I have also filed complaints with the Coffin Butte Landfill. I didn't hear anything back from Coffin Butte until I filed a complaint and noted at the conclusion that previous complaints hadn't resulted in any contact from landfill personnel, despite the form stating they *would make contact* soon. I then received two responses to two subsequent complaints that seemed to be the standard "canned" reply since both responses said exactly the same thing. Paraphrasing now, they said basically, *they don't smell anything beyond the landfill boundaries and they cover the landfill with tarps*. I stopped filing complaints after realizing they had no intention of addressing the problem of odor in this area and it seemed fruitless to persist. However this is an unresolved and frequent issue.

Having lived in watershed areas previously I'm familiar with how pollution from refuse can leach into the water table or run off during rains, polluting creeks, rivers and ponds. I also understand that methane gas is a byproduct of the decomposing waste at the landfill and fear that if a fire got a good start at the dump, it very probably would burn toward our area, threatening our subdivision along with other homes in the subdivisions on the east side of Scenic Rd. The air and water pollution resulting from what started out to be a local dump site has grown as the landfill has expanded to take waste from cities and towns far from Benton County.

Coffin Butte's capacity to receive refuse will be maximized in roughly 6 years and due to the millions of tons of refuse it receives monthly, it has grown into a major contributor of noxious gases, odors that effect the quality of life for the residents of the county and it is a contributor to water pollution in the Willamette River. It is for the above stated reasons that I feel strongly that the *proposed expansion of the landfill should be denied*.

We all want to live in a place where the air and water are clean. To my mind, those elements are basic to good health and a thriving community.

I'd like to thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns.

Sincerely,

Nancy Yialouris  
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Albany, OR 97321