

From: [Janet Ohmann](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: LU-24-027, CUP Application for Expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill
Date: Friday, September 19, 2025 10:36:48 AM

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Dear Benton County Board of Commissioners--

I strongly oppose the conditional use permit (CUP) application for expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill, and urge the Planning Commission to deny Application LU-24-027. The proposed use seriously interferes with uses on adjacent properties, with the character of the area, and with the purpose of the zone. These impacts are SIGNIFICANT, and I urge you to use your discretion in seeing them as such.

Oregon land use laws were an important reason I moved here. In the mid-1990s I settled in Soap Creek Valley, much of which is zoned as Rural Residential. Coffin Butte was a small, locally owned landfill at the time I bought my property. I certainly never expected my home to fall under the influence of a large nearby industrial development. My most immediate concern is with landfill odors that are being imposed on myself and other residents. Despite living several miles from the landfill, the odors can at times be so offensive as to cause me to retreat indoors, close windows, refrain from outdoor projects on my property, and deter me from hiking on nearby roads and trails. At times this has caused me to be depressed enough to consider moving away, but I love this beautiful place and community and have put down roots.

There has been nothing but denial from Republic Services that odors are a problem, despite repeated reporting by many residents to Republic Services, Benton County, and Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The landfill has had ongoing, documented releases of methane that have vastly exceeded permitted limits, and they are under active investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Thus far, there has been NO ENFORCEMENT of ANY of the conditions of approval for the current landfill, nor of other environmental regulations, that would mitigate odors and other issues (noise, traffic, litter, etc.). There is no reason to expect there will be compliance in the future. Problems with this landfill cannot be 'fixed' using conditions of approval. Please DENY this request for expansion.

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