

From: [Stewart Holmes](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Cc: [Stewart Holmes](#); [Maya](#)
Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027
Date: Thursday, October 2, 2025 10:51:28 AM

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To: landfillappeals@bentoncountyor.gov

Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027

Dear Benton County Commissioners Malone and Shepherd and Wyse

I write to oppose any expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill. I ask you to abide by the Planning Commission's unanimous denial of LU-24-027, Republic Services' application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. I believe the Planning Commission went **carefull** through an enormous amount of information – written **a oral** – and correctly concluded **unanimously** that the application did not meet the required Burden of Proof.

I think the proposed expansion will seriously interfere with the character of the area and imp and **undo** burden on public resources in violation of Benton County Code 53.215 (1) and (2). For example:

When I have biked past the area I have smelled methane coming from the landfill. My understanding from the testimony is that there are dozens if not hundreds of leaks of methane from the landfill already and that Republic Services has not been doing anything to plug those leaks. There's no indication that Republic Services is planning on spending the time and energy to correct that situation now, which would only get exponentially worse with an expansion.

It was clear from the testimonies of experts that **the** current and future quantities of leachate from the dump into the local Water table is already in excess of allowable levels. Again, there is nothing to indicate that the situation would do anything except get exponentially worse with an expansion.

Traffic along Hwy 99 in that area is already **bad** and any expansion of the landfill would make that much much worse. Because of all that excess traffic, most or all of the other people I know who bicycle in Benton County already avoid biking near the landfill, Which limits their access to the Findlay Wildlife Area

I **don't** live in that area but imagine that the odor and noise for the residents of Adair village is already bad and will likely get worse regardless of whether an expansion is allowed. I think the Commissioners should take very seriously the complaints raised by the residents of Adair Village.

My feeling is that the landfill operations currently do not align with Benton County's 2040 Thriving Communities initiative core values. The expansion of the landfill would simply make the situation worse. I'm 78 years old and while My life in Benton County will not be severely impacted by the operations of the landfill I think it's imperative that we all consider the lives of those who are coming after us. This landfill could serve Benton County for generations if properly managed and maintained. I believe that would not be possible if Republic services were allowed to expand their operations there.

I believe Benton County should invest in protecting its reputation for agritourism, outdoor recreation, clean air and water, high tech and higher education, not expand a landfill that is **already** a huge visual blight, perpetuates pollution and places a long-term burden on local communities!

Please reject LU-24-027. Thank you for your consideration and for protecting the health and future of Benton County.

Sincerely,

Stewart Holmes

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