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To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: testimony against the landfill expansion proposal
Date: Sunday, October 5, 2025 10:45:39 AM

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My name is Ken Kenaston and I live at 2870 SW Morris Ave, Corvallis, OR 97333. I am opposed to the Landfill Expansion, LU-24-027. I am a past Benton County Planning Commissioner and this is an important issue for our community. We cannot continue to ignore the problems this landfill creates for our lives now and for the future. We must deny this expansion proposal now to force us to deal with the waste management issue now and chart a new course. We can't just keep kicking the can down the road.

This proposal fails to meet the criteria for conditional use 53.215 (1), 53.215 (2) and a number of important Benton County Comprehensive policies. The Benton County Board of Commissioners must deny this appeal of the application.

I used to hike in Soap Creek Valley in the area of Poison Oak Hill. I've watched elk wandering in the fields below. Deer routinely traveled through that area towards EE Wilson game management area to the east. Building a landfill cell, as proposed, will keep the wildlife from that area and cause them to divert somewhere else. This change in grazing habitat and migration corridor seems to be in violation of BCC 53.215 (1) (*The proposed use does not seriously interfere with uses on adjacent property, with the character of the area, or with the purpose of the FC zone.*) and the Benton County Comprehensive Plan policy 5.9.4 (*In making land use decisions, Benton County shall protect identified sensitive wildlife habitat types and wildlife corridors from adverse impacts*).

I boat, fish, and swim on the Willamette River from Eugene down to Salem. This public resource has become a hazard to my health because of the leachate drained from Coffin Butte Landfill. It is currently transported to Corvallis and Salem's waste water treatment plants where it is released untreated into the Willamette River. The amount of leachate has continued and is expected to grow with this proposed expansion. It needs to stop immediately. This operational activity violates BCC 53.215 (2) and Benton County comprehensive plan policies 5.1.2, 5.2.1, and 5.7.4. The increased leachate from this new garbage cell is unacceptable. There is not a treatment for this alphabet soup of toxic materials and it is metered into the Willamette River to make it go away. That is in violation of Benton County Comprehensive Plan policy 6.5.5 (*Benton County shall strive for the safe storage, collection, reduction, reuse, recovery, and appropriate disposal of hazardous waste materials.*)

I visited EE Wilson the other day. I grew up around Adair and used to walk in the management area hunting pheasants, bird watching, and running the dogs. Boy has that changed! There is a mountain of trash dominating the view now. It is no longer the scenic natural area it once was. The sound of earth moving equipment, the big trucks grinding up the hill, the smell, all destroyed the once beautiful experience it once was. That is a huge change in the character of the area. This landfill expansion proposal seems to violate BCC 53.215(1).