

From: [KEN KENASTON](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: testimony opposing the landfill expansion LU-24-027
Date: Sunday, October 5, 2025 10:54:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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 in our community. The continued operation of the Coffin Butte landfill is a threat to the safety of our people and our community future. We must move away from making the problems worse and set us on a pathway for a new way forward. We haven't even begun addressing the hazards present now and mediation for removing the threats that already exist. You must deny the landfill expansion proposal and deny the appeal by Republic Services.

There is an important concept in environmental decision making that is important in this discussion; the importance of **avoiding irreversible negative consequences** of your decision. There are several irreversible consequences in this decision you face. **Risk to groundwater contamination is very real, irreversible, and unacceptable.** One of the below surface liners beneath the landfill has already ruptured and leachate was thankfully captured by the secondary liner. What prevents the backup liner from failing? Contamination in the groundwater cannot be fixed and is a forever problem. **Methane releases and other noxious gasses released from this operation are dooming our future.** These gaseous releases have been documented already from the landfill and will continue despite the ineffective mitigating actions proposed with past and proposed conditions of approval. These gasses have already contributed and continue to contribute to the climate crisis we are in. The poor air quality from the landfill operation are a suspect in the high occurrence of cancers in the Soap Creek Valley reported by others. Have Republic Services proven the releases are safe and not responsible? The condition of approval proposed to control releases has been proposed before. Largely unmonitored, and when inspected by the jurisdictional agencies, failed miserably. If it didn't work before, why would it work now?