

From: [Morrell, Tisha](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Response to LU24-027
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I own a home and property south of the landfill and close to the proposed expansion site: (38464 Highway 99W).

I am hoping that the appeal for the expansion will be denied for a variety of reasons. While these were among those raised in my response to the original submission, these concerns still remain and are **not** adequately addressed in the appeal:

- Current methane emission levels remain unsafe. While Republic is “working on” the issue, they have not yet remedied the current methane emissions and increasing the size of the landfill will only add to the problems.
- Odors from the landfill have obviously increased as the amount of waste they receive has increased. Unfortunately, reporting the odors doesn’t result in any real action by the State and certainly not the landfill, so complaining is a fruitless exercise and not worth the effort. The appeal talks about mitigating future odors, but since current ones aren’t dealt with appropriately, I can’t imagine this concern actually being remedied.
- Questions about ground water leachate without proper state and federal regulating capabilities make it unwise to risk the problems that would likely arise with an expansion into another groundwater system. Leachate concerns have not been fully addressed in the appeal.
- Similarly, concerns raised concerning the intake cap if the expansion is approved have not been satisfactorily addressed.
- The “meteorological, geologic, and population density are not conducive to a larger landfill tonnage” as described in a Benton County government issued document dating back two years prior to these latest two requests (see https://cd.bentoncountyor.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/history_doc_-_updated_3-27-23.pdf). This concern has not been adequately addressed in the appeal.

Given the landfill continues to drag its feet in addressing current concerns and pass the buck to other agencies, it’s hard to accept they will be more responsible with a larger area to manage.

I remind the Commissioners that the current landfill would not have been built where it is given our present-day knowledge of appropriate sites. Coffin Butte landfill should be permitted to reach its current preset life span and then closed--NOT expanded.

Thank you for your full consideration of this matter.

Patricia D. Morrell
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