

From: [Bill Briskey](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: I live next door to the dump so I have Landfill Expansion concerns -
Date: Monday, October 6, 2025 10:38:15 AM
Attachments: [Title V Air Permit Concerns - Landfill Expansion Response.docx](#)

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.

Dear County Planning Division:

Please include the attached document in the record for the Board of Commissioners as Written Testimony regarding the Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion.

Thank you.

--

William J. Briskey, PE
39101 Military Rd, Monmouth, OR 97361

Note: My property is in Benton County; some of my neighbors in this area also have Monmouth addresses due to available USPS delivery methods that were in place many years ago.

Title V Air Permit Concerns for Coffin Butte Landfill

October 6, 2025

Regarding Air Quality Permit Renewal

Attention: Board of Commissioners

I have two primary concerns about the requested permit renewal:

1. Landfill gas impact on health of my family, which includes an infant and a 2-yr-old
2. Impact on how I use my land

My property shares 1580 feet of fence line with the NW corner of the Coffin Butte landfill and the topology brings the smell right to us anytime there's a south component to the wind direction. When we bought our land 35 years ago, we were told by a Valley Landfills, Inc. representative that the original deposit location, called Cell 6, was closed so all future garbage would always be moving away from us. Since Republic moved all the refuse out of Cell 6 and Knife River blasted to remove more of the Butte at that NW corner, we've already experienced more odor and picked up more airborne garbage that blows over the fence. The quarry blasting has caused structural shifts in our house, broke a window, and we now have major cracks in concrete slabs in out-buildings. Understandably, we're very interested in the outcome of the current expansion discussion and any other restriction/requirement that Republic must follow.

I am becoming increasingly concerned about my family's exposure to toxic gasses every time a breeze comes from SE to SW. The gas being comprised of methane, carbon dioxide, plus other aerosols including toxic PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyls) was just last year measured by the EPA to exceed the maximum allowable emission level by 219 times. I have not seen any evidence that the ongoing problems in the existing methane collection system have been corrected since the last EPA visits, just continued gas emissions indications from satellite images and my own nose. This clearly violates BCC 53.215 (1) and makes me wonder why it doesn't get the attention it deserves by Benton County and EPA officials. It is apparent that even compliance with air quality requirements managed by the DEQ would be a stretch for Republic based on the latter's record.

I haven't complained about the odor because, hey, I live next to a dump. But the **increase in odor** is also raising my awareness to the apparent lack of mitigation and potential long-term damage from toxicity exposure. I hosted business associates once and the stench forced me to cancel the meeting and everyone left – I haven't been able to host events since then. Before there's any new permit approval, I'd like to see Republic get a handle on what they already have to manage. I'd also like to see evidence that they are actually solving the problem instead of dismissing complaints.

There's no easy solution for waste, but how about accountability? It's pretty clear to me that the practice of hiding violations in the past has turned into a standard operational procedure. It's unlikely that Republic can change its practices to be transparent with the

County, and the county's contract representative (legal counsel) is not negotiating on behalf of the stakeholders in our county.

I see first-hand how the landfill's disregard for environmental and local land use impacts my family. I encourage relevant DEQ personnel to visit a neighborhood downwind of the landfill and think about the long-term impact when they stand there breathing in the potpourri of nasty gasses. It might be several years before science solidly connects these gasses to human health issues – meanwhile the activities of Landfill neighbors is dependent on “the way the wind blows.” I would prefer that landfill operations cease, but in lieu of that, that there at least be a relevant monitoring system activated to ensure that there is compliance with Air Quality requirements.

William J. Briskey, PE
39101 Military Road
Monmouth, OR 97361