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To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Written testimony in opposing the expansion of the Landfill Coffin Butte
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Dear Benton County Commissioners:

Since your decision in July 2025 to deny the Republic's application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill some significant local seismic activity has been occurring making the proposed expansion even more problematic and dangerous to the Benton community.

As you all aware the Benton County is susceptible to the earthquake from local faults, like the Corvallis Fault. The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) in its regional earthquake loss estimation model (HAZUS) predicts that Magnitude 6.5 earthquake is likely to occur. In the last 365 days the Corvallis area has seen a handful of small earthquakes.

The concern that general increase of seismic activity in Cascadia will trigger the eruption of already deteriorating fault line is something the Benton County shall seriously address and consider while examining the Applicants' request to reconsider its earlier decision to deny the expansion.

It's already a public record that available via the University of Washington online seismic activity reports. The notable ones are September 29, 2025 earthquakes vicinity of Newberg, OR magnitude 1.9; a magnitude 4 of the Oregon Coast on the same day; the September 23, 2025 Magnitude 2.2, only 24 km from Newport OR.

There are numerous earthquakes now regularly occurring closer to Mt. Hood, Bendon, OR and Adel, OR areas. The HAZUS reports that earthquakes will damage or even destroy the water delivery systems and will make it harder to extinguish the fires, making it impossible to extinguish a chemical explosion caused fire in the event of an earthquake.

The current Landfill is already as dangerously located as it is to the Corvallis Fault. Having the expansion of toxic waste storage in anticipation of possible impacts from the local earthquake that will destroy the concrete structures, bridges, warehouses with their contents, schools and medical facilities buildings residential houses, etc., is just not possible.

Currently, the Coffin Butte Landfill accepts all kinds of organic and commercial waste, chemical waste from all over the Willamette Valley.

It is putting Benton County residents in an increased risk of extreme hazardous fire in the event of even a single earthquake.

The increased seismic activity in Cascadia near Oregon can no longer be ignored or overlooked.

Please deny the Republic's Appeal on the scientific evidence and common sense basis.

Thank you for taking your time to read this testimony.

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Sent from my iPhone