

**From:** [Ken Kupperman](#)  
**To:** [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)  
**Subject:** LU-24\_027 Testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 7, 2025 4:56:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [KUPPERMAN LU-24-027 testimony.pdf](#)

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Hello,

Attached is our testimony regarding the landfill expansion which we oppose.

Thank you.

Ken and Pei Kupperman

Hello, I am Ken Kupperman, and my wife is Pei Kupperman. We lived at 2101 NW Christopher Place in Corvallis for 18 years until August of this year. For the past 20 years we have also had a farm approximately 5 miles northwest of the Coffin Butte Landfill on Sauerkraut Road, off of Airlie Road, where we now live. Our farm is within the Exclusive Farm Use zone. We could not be more in opposition to any expansion of the landfill, in fact we would like to see the current operation with Republic transition to termination as soon as possible. Why, because Republic's operation at Coffin Butte is polluting our environment, potentially a major environmental disaster waiting to happen, and it is creating an ever expanding financial burden for its future cleanup. At our farm we have been affected by toxic fumes on an ever increasing number of days and severity, to the extent we can't work outside during those events. This absolutely seriously interferes with the use of our property [Benton County Code 53.215 (1)]. We know from the experience of the 2020 wildfires that its related smoke taint caused loss of marketable crops. Ever increasing emissions from the landfill are detrimental, but at what threshold? Zero emissions should be required. One of our major concerns is the potential for a catastrophic landfill fire. Each year in the US there are over 8,000 landfill fires, it is common; it can happen. If we have a fire at the landfill, will we have a Chernobyl in our back yard, the risk is unimaginable and we must take steps to prevent it. Republic has proven to be non-compliant to safeguards and is a blatant polluter. Toxins are emitted into the air and groundwater from the landfill, litter is blown out of the trucks all along the Highway 99 corridor as well as Independence Hwy and Hwy 20 as they enter and leave the landfill. There is also the carbon footprint of waste transported from far distances, plus all their toxic leachate that is trucked offsite that pollutes the Willamette River and farmlands from toxic sludge. These are all undue burdens on facilities, utilities and services to the area [Benton County Code 53.215 (2)]. What kind of stewards are we being for future generations if we let this expansion happen? Please deny LU-24-027, for their sake as well as ours. The current operation is primitive, outdated and profiteering. We need to find a better solution for our waste management that is less polluting, safer and long term viable. Expansion must not be allowed.