

From: [Sue Powell](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Testimony about LU-24-027
Date: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 4:01:59 PM

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Please accept my testimony, also attached as a PDF file.

Thank you,
Susan L. Powell
jabirusue@comcast.net
October 7, 2025 4:00 pm

I strongly oppose the approval of LU-24-027 which will expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. When we decided to move to Benton County in 2006, it was mainly because of its "livability," which met our personal values. Now, approaching Corvallis from the north on Hwy 99, the dump is a horrendous sight. Little did we know the following facts when we moved here:

- Benton County generates only 7% of the annual 67,000 tons of waste that arrives at the Coffin Butte Landfill
- Cities outside Benton County deposit 93.3% of the waste or 927,945 tons - annually, which arrives in diesel-powered trucks, often with loose articles blowing onto the adjacent land.
- There is a plume of arsenic, which is from the rocks beneath the landfill dome. When the holes were dug for wells or disposal sites, the rock layer was disturbed and arsenic was free to seep into the water table. Properties downstream from the landfill are at great risk if they use their wells.
- Other toxins, such as PCBs have no easy test to determine amounts. Republic Services does not test for these "forever chemicals," which are known to be carcinogenic even in small amounts. Again they will ultimately join water downstream and pollute waterways until they are flushed into the Pacific Ocean.

Why are the cities which are sending their waste to Corvallis not disposing of their own waste on their own lands?

Are these cities PCBs, asbestos, recycling useable material? Who knows what is in that waste? These poisons are undetectable, but clear water doesn't mean clean water.

Does this mean that the Benton County's 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative is just whitewash? Community-driven, visioning process that uses community-identified Core Values in order to address long-term, complex issues.

Sincerely,
Susan Powell
670 NW Mirador Place

Please do not vote to make money more important than nature and livability.

Respectfully,
Susan L. Powell
jabirusue@comcast.net
April 21, 2025