

From: [Ken True](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion (LU-24-027)
Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 3:49:57 PM

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Dear Commissioners Wyse, Shepard and Malone,

I object to the expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill (LU-24-027). I respectfully urge you to uphold the Planning Commission's unanimous decision to deny permission for the expansion,

I've been a resident of Benton County for most of the last 55 years. I attended Oregon State University where I received both bachelors and masters degrees in Electronics Engineering as well as a Masters in Business Administration. As an engineer I have worked for the state of Oregon and Oregon State University in jobs where I responsible for instrumentation that measured air pollution, meteorological and solar radiation data. I managed the food processing plant at Stahlbush Island farms in the mid 90s and a hobby farm in Alsea for many years. My education and those experiences help me understand the aesthetic, environmental and fiscal issues surrounding the proposed expansion.

The current level of operations at the landfill have degraded livability in Benton County during the time I've lived here. Trucks hauling waste to the dump litter our roads, damage the pavement, and slow traffic. I quit hunting at EE Wilson many years ago because of concern about ground water contamination from the landfill polluting upland game and waterfowl. My understanding is that Republic has had many instance of non compliance with state and federal environmental regulations, but there has never been action taken to remediate most of them; hence my mistrust. Smell from the facility is unpleasant; I avoid the area because of it. Expansion of the landfill will make these problems worse.

I'm also concerned about the liability Benton County has assumed by the current level of operations, never mind an expansion. If the leachate containment system fails, as an engineer I don't believe that the expansion proposal has adequate provisions to remediate such a failure without severe impact to county services or an enormous increase in taxes. And regardless of insurance, once our precious ground water is contaminated it will stay that way for generations and become a source of pollution to the Willamette River. It seems unfair that Benton County should assume this degree of liability when the vast majority of the waste that is sent there is from other counties and states.

Again, please, for the sake of our lovely home and the fiscal security of our county, deny expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill.

Respectfully,

Kenneth A True
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