

From: [John Snelling](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Coffin Butte
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 9:13:53 AM
Attachments: [Landfill10 October 2025.docx](#)

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see attached

10 October 2025

Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd
P.O. Box 3020
Corvallis, OR 97339

Re. LU-24-027

My name is John Snelling and I live at 1420 NW Worden Circle, Corvallis, Oregon, just six miles south of Coffin Butte. I have lived in Benton County since August 1985. My degrees are B.A. Zoology, M.S. Zoology and ABD Ph.D. Evolutionary Biology. I completed the OSU/Republic Services Master Recycler Class of 2011. I am a Block Captain for recycling, and have helped collect waste and recycle at the Corvallis Fall Festival for 10 years, as well as for Da Vinci Days and Sage Concerts. I am a parent of two Oregonians, and grandparent to eight, five of whom are Oregonians. I am the elected treasurer of the 30-acre Vineyard Mountain Park and Recreation District.

I am adamantly opposed to expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill for legal and environmental reasons. Coffin Butte effects my quality of living by polluting the air with methane, by polluting the groundwater with PFAS chemical leachate, and by reducing property values.

The burden of proof is only met if Republic Services demonstrates that both:

- The proposed use does not seriously interfere with uses on adjacent property, with the character of the area, or with the purpose of the zone [Benton County Code 53.215 (1)]
- The proposed use does not impose an undue burden on any public improvements, facilities, utilities, or services available to the area [Benton County Code 53.215 (2)]

Coffin Butte already pollutes air and water. Republic Services is currently being investigated by the EPA for methane plumes in violation of the Federal Clean Air Act, ongoing since at least 2022; methane contributes to global climate change, and it reduces air quality. Offensive odor emanates from the dump; noise, litter, and pavement degradation result from dump truck activity. The hiking and biking in nearly McDonald and Dunn Forests and my Park District, are negatively affected. Value of property and community image are degraded by proximity to a dump. Expansion of the landfill can only increase these negative effects.

You have already denied expansion of Coffin Butte twice. Modification of the CUP in the most recent application changes nothing. As a voter, scientist, father, and grandfather I ask you to please deny the application.

Sincerely,

John C. Snelling

