

From: [CAROLYN PETERSON](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Deny LU-24-027
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 8:54:09 AM

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Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027

Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

I am Carolyn Peterson and live at 2725 NW Arthur Ave., Corvallis, OR 97330

As a retired accountant and geologist, I am professionally knowledgeable of the inherent dangers of landfills. In the 2000s, I worked on solid waste franchise tax agreements for several Portland Metro area governments and environmental sampling on small landfills. Most landfills, including Coffin Butte are located on environmentally unsafe and inappropriate locations. These facilities started operations during a time when there was no concern for long-term impacts to the local population and environment.

When a landfill closes, monitoring and financial responsibility is required for a mere 30 years. Leachate and methane gas do not go away when a landfill is "properly" closed or "properly maintained". Expansion of Coffin Butte adds to the future burden of the citizens of Benton County. The approximate \$3 to \$4 million per year that the county currently receives from Republic Services is not an appropriate tradeoff for our future.

Republic Services is a nearly \$70 BILLION international corporation. The only reason they keep trying to expand Coffin Butte is profits. They have no long-term concern for the county.

Do you remember (or know that) that New York City (and other communities) used to barge garbage offshore and dump it in the ocean? Expanding the capacity of Coffin Butte will be an analogous abhorrent practice. Just because trash hauling to Coffin Butte is the current standard practice, does not make it right.

Do the right thing and deny LU-24-027. Make the citizens of Benton County proud of the county commission.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Peterson