

From: [Douglas Maxwell](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Oppose/Deny Landfill Expansion LU-24-027
Date: Sunday, October 19, 2025 6:59:10 AM

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Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepard:

My name is Douglas Maxwell. We have lived in Airlie, Monmouth and Independence for the past 55 years. Over the years, I have seen the dump grow bigger and bigger and smell worse and worse. We moved into our current home in January of this year - the stench is ripe! Especially in the early mornings and late evening. I've smelled it at my home multiple times since we've moved, and we are a full 4 miles away from the landfill.

I think about all that garbage slowly rotting over the last 50 years and leaching into the soil. The proposed expansion MUST be rejected for the health of our humans, wildlife and eco-systems. From what I understand, the current dump, without any expansion, still has enough room for our trash for the next 14 years or so. I also understand that Coffin Butte accepts waste from 23 Oregon counties and even some counties in Washington. But Benton County only accounts for 7% of that trash. Why does Benton county have to be the dump for the rest of the state? We get so much rain here, which only adds to the leachate problem. It sounds as though the waste facility near Umatilla, which is situated away from people and farms, and is in a very dry part of the state, would be a much more sustainable option, and possibly cost less. The continuance/expansion of Coffin Butte only adds to our already tenuous relationship with the livability of our county and state.

I'd love to have the answers, other than continuing our efforts to reduce, re-use, and recycle. Manufacturers have to step up and reduce packaging, and we need to do all we can to keep trash to a minimum. Expanding Coffin Butte is not the answer.

From what I understand, an Arizona-based corporation receives the majority of profit from Coffin Butte while Benton County receives the liability of methane gases and pollution of our water, air and land. I also understand that Coffin Butte has been fined over and over again, yet it is allowed to continue and expand. This violates BBC 215 (1).

Please deny this and any proposed expansion of Coffin Butte, and please uphold the Planning Commission's UNANIMOUS denial of the expansion.

Thank you for your time.

Douglas Maxwell
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