

LU-24-027 IN-PERSON TESTIMONY SUBMITTAL COVER SHEET

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Date: 10-22-25

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BOC ID: BOC 2

IDENTIFIER: To 635

October 22, 2025

To: landfillappeals@bentoncountyor.gov

Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027 – Fire Risk from Landfill Expansion

I am writing because I strongly oppose any expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill and urge you to uphold your Planning Commission's unanimous denial of LU-24-027, Republic Services' application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. The Planning Commission carefully considered all evidence provided by the applicant, as well as considerable testimony, and concluded unanimously that the application did not meet the required Burden of Proof.

My testimony is about fire risk to Benton County from fires originating at the landfill or nearby fires igniting the landfill. This issue of landfill fires will result in a significant adverse impact and undue burden on adjacent properties and public services. That is criterion 53.215(1) and 53.215 (2) in the Benton county code.

Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

My Credentials:

Soap Creek Valley Firewise Co-Chair

Studied Fire with: Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM), Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), OSU Extension Service, Oregon Emergency Management (OEM), Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IHBS)

Witness to Changing Ecosystem

Tonight you will hear from concerned, educated, and informed community members on subjects ranging from odor, noise, methane, PFAS, arsenic, leachate, traffic, air and water quality, litter, business impacts, livability, wildlife, emergency services, health, and fire among others. I urge you to insure that all these voices are heard as they share their insights on this monumental decision.

I am a cancer survivor, so far. I am not on the cancer map that you received in written testimony illustrating a cancer cluster in our valley. Is my cancer the result of toxic air, water, produce from my garden, or toxins that I was exposed to second hand from a household member who served as an Adair Rural Fire & Rescue volunteer and responded to multiple landfill fires each week back in the 90's, including the big fire in 1999? Did he bring home toxins from landfill fire smoke on his clothes, skin and vehicle? We don't know, because neither the county nor the state has studied our local cancer cluster. I urge you to consider the written testimony that addresses this phenomenon.

This evening I am focusing on the fire risk from the landfill.

After the Planning Commission unanimously denied the expansion, Republic Services made an information request to the Adair Fire Department. It was very limited. They asked for fire

department response to only the working face of the landfill. They said “don’t look over here at the flares, don’t look at the PRC, don’t look at anything except the working face of the landfill.” As a result, they got a limited view of the fires and fire calls to their property and the surrounding area. Of course, they are no longer comparing apples to apples; they are now comparing a slice of an orange to an apple.

During the September 10, 2025 DSAC meeting, Paul Koster, from Republic Services, after receiving these limited results, made a cavalier comment about “just one fire” per year. To which I would reply, the Alameda fire, which was also just ONE fire, killed at least 11 people, burned more than 1.1M acres of land, and destroyed thousands of homes. If our “one fire” happens during a Red Flag event, we could be next. Per BC 53.215(1) that would seriously interfere with adjacent properties and the character of the area.

I see that the Staff is proposing Conditions of Approval (COAs) that require Republic Services to implement after hours monitoring and sensors, and provide afterhours staff on red flag days. During the same September DSAC meeting Mr. Koster stated that Republic Services would not making those implementations. This is refreshingly direct for Republic, a company that has said that they would comply with COAs and then didn’t. We have Mr. Koster’s statements at DSAC that they will NOT comply.

Remember that approving the CUP with Conditions of Approval is exactly the same as approving it without COAs because they are never enforced and never met. Republic has proposed providing the county with 80K a year to pay for a compliance monitor. 80K would not pay for a FTE administrative assistant with standard benefits, let alone the multiple scientists and specialists needed to monitoring compliance. And monitoring is not the same as enforcing compliance, especially if enforcement requires going to court.

Surely, an out of State Corporation with a market capitalization of \$69 billion dollars could provide afterhours monitoring, sensors, and staffing on red flag days now, not contingent on

an expansion. But instead of addressing the issues exposed during the Planning Commission hearings, Republic Services/Valley Landfills has spent their capital on PR campaigns promoting false information cloaked as a grass roots community movement.

Again, during the September DSAC meeting Mr. Koster assured the committee that Republic applies daily cover to the entire working face nightly and has staff photograph it. In my written testimony I show several examples of nonexistent or partial daily cover. A landfill with exposed garbage and explosive levels of methane is an ignition source either from within such as from a lightning strike, some undetected hot content, like a lithium battery, or from external sources such as a windblown ember from a nearby fire.

With a landfill fire, even if it does not escape the landfill, neighbors may be evacuated due to toxic smoke and volunteer fire fighters WILL be exposed to it too, and take it home to their families on the clothes, skin, and vehicles; another undue burden on services.

Paul Koster seemed to suggest that he did not know the definition of Red Flag Days here in Oregon. For the purposes of this CUP appeal consideration; the staff considers Republic Services to be an expert. As a mere Firewise co-Chair and local resident, I know when a Red Flag day is coming and when it is in effect. How do I know? My Weather site, my local radio station, my text alerts from the state, my Watch Duty App, the local fire department status boards, etc., all tell me when we are in Red Flag conditions. Mr. Koster seems to expect Adair Fire to personally notify him. This seems like an undue burden on our services.

The Staff have also proposed a COA that Republic reports all fires, regardless of size, to DSAC and to the ODEQ. Why is a COA being proposed that is ALREADY a requirement on Page 11 of the 2020 ODEQ Solid Waste Disposal Site Permit? My written testimony that in spite of this existing ODEQ reporting requirement, Republic has ONLY reported two of their fires to ODEQ since January 1 of 2020. Both of these "reports" are sparse, inaccurate email notes about the circumstances. They do not include steps for preventing a future repeat.

Commissioners, you do not require violations of the DEQ, EPA, OSHA agencies' -- regulations to be "adjudicated" before using those to weigh your decisions. You can use your own judgment.

The list of inaccuracies, misstatements, and underreporting goes on and on. Mr. Koster and Mr. Walsh say that the "new" enclosed flare cannot cause a fire as it has no exposed flame. But the heat signal from the enclosed flare is visible from space. I have referenced a video provided in the record showing flame and black smoke shooting out of the top of the enclosed flare. As any local resident knows, hay devils could easily sweep hay or trash through the flare to ignite and then light surrounding dry brush on fire.

Mr. Walsh tells us that a small grass fire at the landfill is not a risk to the community. On September 27 a grass fire near the landfill at Granger and Pettibone spread quickly into the crowns and torched in nearby trees. More than 20 households had to respond to a Level 3 "Go Now" evacuation. The fire required five counties to respond and extinguish it. Republic makes the false assumption that 12 volunteers are enough to address landfill fires and protect the public and property, again puts an undue burden on the community and this volunteer service.

Had we been having a wind event during the last flare fire or PRC fire, those "one fires", could have had very different outcomes.

This recent "Go Now" evacuation is also a reminder that we need to ensure that Coffin Butte Road stays open. The way to ensure this is to specifically block expansion on the south side, so no future public works processes and no future sitting Commissioners in the county could ever make the decision to allow Coffin Butte road to close.

Another COA would have Republic keep a full water truck on site at the landfill. When a flight attendant suggested that her seat cushion could be used as a flotation device, Whoopi Goldberg once quipped that "I do not think that it will work at 50,000 feet in the air". And I do not think that an on-site water truck will work if no one is there to use it, especially on a Red

Flag day.

Just because Republic Services claims that we are not seeing the trash along the roads or in our yards, do not hear the backup beepers, explosions, and clanging from the landfill, do not smell the noxious odors miles away, or speak the truth about our experiences, knowledge, or concerns, does not eliminate the interference with uses on adjacent properties, or the character of the area, or eliminate the undue burden on services.

For these and so many other reasons that I outline in my written testimony (I've included lots of "pretty" pictures too), I urge you to uphold the unanimous and informed decision of the Planning Commission and deny this CUP. I also urge you to hear all of the testimony from our community.

I yield the rest of my time so that others will have a chance to speak.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application submitted by Valley Landfills Inc., which proposes to start what amounts to a new landfill on the north end of Tampico Ridge, south of Coffin Butte Road.

My comments focus on the risk of fire to our local communities, homes, recreation, wildlife, industry, business, property, and wellbeing of our Adair Rural Fire & Rescue posed by the Coffin Butte Landfill.

In Exhibit 20_Fire Risk Assessment for Coffin Butte Landfill the applicant has outlined five fires since 1999 and identified three possible sources of landfill fires that have a material chance of ever developing at the Landfill. These include (1) working face fires, (2) grass fires, and (3) gas well fires. They have declared that there have been no fires in the surrounding area. And have outlined their plan to address and handle fires that do occur.

In the supporting document, I show that there is a distinct mismatch between the E20 report and the data provided by Adair Rural Fire and Rescue (ARFR), which records 28 fire responses between 2013 and October 8, 2025. Adair Rural Fire & Rescue has responded to 28 calls to the Landfill, 20 to the Republic Services Pacific Region Composting (PRC), 114 to fires near the Coffin Butte Landfill, and 195 to Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA) near the landfill. Only two of the fires occurring between January 1, 2022 to the present, that involved ARFR, or the ones that were handled internally were reported to the DEQ as their Operations Plan states and the 2020 ODEQ Solid Waste Disposal Site Permit require.

I also show additional fire risks that are not accounted for in the E20, and show that Republic Services does not have a thorough plan to monitor and address fires, especially after hours, where they rely on the public for monitoring and volunteers for fire suppression. This includes Paul Koster, of Republic Services, stating during the September 10, 2025 DSAC meeting that he would NOT set up after hours monitoring or heat sensors, or staff the landfill after hours on Red Flag days.

The applicant drastically under represents the severity, number and types of fire risks to individuals and property in the area and yet asks you to approve their CUP. Exhibit 20 does serve as a useful example of how the applicant handles legitimate fire risk concerns that have been raised by local residents.

As I detail in my attachment to this statement, the applicant's arguments are dismissive at best. The fact that they have included this Exhibit as part of their application casts doubt on the entire application, and gives you further grounds to deny.

Sincerely,

Virginia Scott

Fire reporting requirements, 2020 VLI Solid Waste permit, p. 11/27

9.17 Fire protection and reporting

The permittee must provide complete and sufficient protection equipment and facilities in accordance with DEQ-approved Operations Plan.

Arrangements must be made with the local fire control agency to immediately acquire their services when needed. The permittee must implement preventative measures to ensure adequate on-site fire control, as determined by the local fire control agency. Fires must be immediately and thoroughly extinguished.

Fires shall be reported to DEQ within 24 hours.

Exhibit 20: Fire Risk Assessment of Coffin Butte Landfill

Exhibit Description: Exhibit 20 initially included the Fire Risk Assessment of Coffin Butte Landfill, Corvallis, Oregon prepared by SCS Engineers dated November 29, 2023. MFA reviewed its content for completeness in their letter dated November 27, 2024. However, on December 11, 2023, the Applicant submitted a more recent fire risk assessment dated September 24, 2024. This exhibit was later amended with an addendum memorandum prepared by SCS Engineers on January 14, 2025, addressing the completeness review comments.

Comments: MFA and our subconsultant, Dr. Tony Sperling of Landfill Fire Control Inc. (LFCI), have the following comments on this exhibit:

The Coffin Butte Landfill should continue to employ best industry practices for fire risk management, including but not limited to:

- Temperature and landfill gas (LFG) monitoring
 - Routine temperature monitoring via a thermal camera to confirm that temperature in affected areas remains below 50°C (122°F), after removal of hot materials.
 - Monitoring carbon monoxide (CO) in addition to the primary LFGs (methane, and carbon dioxide), as CO levels are good indicators of the presence of incomplete combustion.
- Maintain firefighting supplies on site, such as full water trucks and soil stockpiles
 - Sufficient soil should be kept near the working face to fully cover the active area with a minimum thickness of one foot.
- Proper acceptance and disposal of battery and electronic waste
- Periodic maintenance of the landfill gas (LFG) management system

LFCI agrees with the Applicant's statement that excessive extraction of LFG can lead to increased temperatures and the potential for subsurface fires. However, LFCI notes that a review of data from several major landfill fire incidents indicates that there are documented cases where subsurface fire has breached the surface. Given the associated risks of surface fires, it is strongly recommended that landfill operations prioritize the proper maintenance of LFG management systems and closely monitor for subsurface fire activity, particularly in cases of system failure or interruption.

Reviewers: Landfill Fire Control Inc.

Dr Tony Sperling has an 8 page CV which is attached.

Dr Tony Sperling is an "expert in landfill design and landfill firefighting"

Dr Tony Sperling lists organization that he has trained in fire prevention and firefighting, neither Republic Services nor Coffin Butte Landfill are on that list.

Dr Tony Sperling has not advised Republic Service or Coffin Butte on Safe Landfill practices according to his CV.

Dr. Tony Sperling list several landfill fires that he consulted on that had burned for months and cost multiple millions of dollars to fights.

It seems to me that it would be an undue burden on the County service and on the local and volunteer fire departments to fight a fire for months and that a multi-million dollar price tags for this this effort is also an undue burden.

Ironically, Dr. Tony Sperling was an expert witness to support the Missouri Attorney General in its lawsuit against Republic Services' Bridgeton landfill fire which is still burning 14+ years later.

<https://missouriindependent.com/2025/01/22/high-likelihood-of-radioactive-waste-in-smoldering-landfill-missouri-officials-say/>

TYPE OF LANDFILL FIRES. Table 3 shows the five types of fires that occur on landfills. The prevalence of refuse fires is not surprising, but it is interesting that other types of fires occur on landfill properties. Vehicle fires involve dump trucks, compactors, and other vehicles commonly found in landfills. Brush fires may occur when landfill fires spread to the surrounding lands. Structure fires at landfill sites probably involve small offices or other facilities constructed for the landfill staff.

Table 3. Types of Fires Occurring on Landfills⁴⁴

Type of Fire	Percent of Fires
Refuse	77
Trees, brush, grass	12
Outside structure, where material burning has value	6
Vehicle	4
Structure	1

In 2024, Oregon's Governor invoked the Emergency Conflagration Act and Oregon was in a state of emergency due to the 2024 wildfires. These wildfires were exacerbated by the dry environment that is a result of global warming. Oregon called on its mutual assistance teams around the country to help us with fighting these wildfires. When the 2024 season finished, we had lost a record number of acres to fire. As we know the cost of firefighting and recovery from wildfires is massive and it costs lives, like the 2024 death of single-engine air tanker pilot James Bailey Maxwell. We also know that many of our Wildland firefighters have lost their jobs.

In addition, Oregon Health Authority is reporting record numbers of heat related deaths due to climate change, including 14 since July 5, 2024. The Climate and Health in Oregon report for 2023 reminds us that extreme climate effects continue and that we must build resilience against wildfire, drought and extreme heat. It seems that reducing methane release from Coffin Butte would be more effective than building resilience to the effects of methane releases. An expansion of the landfill will only result in more methane, not less.

This methane release is causing losses in human life, environmental losses, fire losses and expenses, and these are not limited to our county. These effects are cumulative across our state, our neighbor states, and have worldwide implications that often fall on those least able to adapt to them.

An expanded landfill is an additional fire risk to our community and to Benton County. BCC 53.215 (1) A landfill fire sweeping through the area will seriously interfere with uses on adjacent property, (e.g. the destruction of the homes that we live in, the research forestry in McDonald Forest, the commercial forestry in Starker Forest, agriculture like Anderson Blues, the recreational hiking and horse trails at the Lewisburg Saddle, the Old Growth Trail, the Sulphur Springs Trails, E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area, Peavy Arboretum, etc.) If fire sweeps through the area it will seriously interfere with the character of the area, (e.g. the loss of the historic oldest standing one room schoolhouse in Oregon, and much like the destruction along the scenic McKenzie River highway (below):



Before



After

An expanded landfill is an additional fire risk to our community and to Benton County. BCC 53.215 (2) will impose an undue burden on public improvements, facilities, utilities, or services (e.g. the Adair Rural Fire And Rescue Substation in the Soap Creek Valley, utilities (e.g. in that the toxic smoke from a landfill fire will contaminate water lines and wells that residents depend on, (as happened in the recent LA fires)), or services in the area (e.g. Adair Village Schools).

Per BCC 50.015: 5.9.4 the Soap Creek Valley is home to the endangered Calypso orchid, 5.1.2 The ecological health would be irreparably damaged by the toxic smoke from a landfill fire particularly if it burns for years. 5.2.1 Soap Creek is an important part of the Luckiamute Watershed and would become inhospitable to fish and other aquatic creatures if the cooling tree-cover were destroyed by fire.

Wildfire Hazard Map:

Property Owner's Report

Wildfire Hazard Class: **Low**

Within Wildland Urban Interface Boundary (WUI)? **Yes**

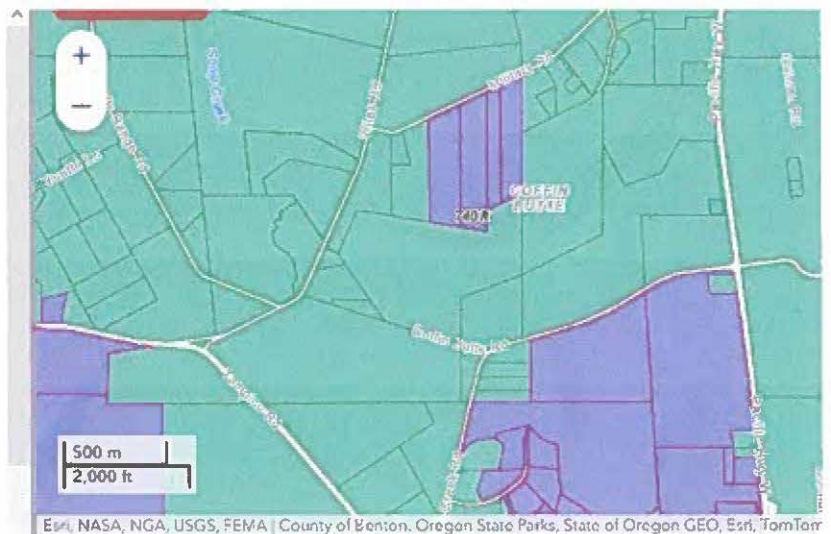
Wildfire Hazard Value: 0.001064



Low Moderate High

36.96% of properties in Oregon have a higher hazard value.

Only properties that are both high hazard and in the wildland urban interface will be required to meet enhanced defensible space standards (ORS 476.392) and home hardening codes (ORS 455.612)





To create the wildfire hazard map, OSU researchers combined two primary datasets – burn probability and fire intensity. Both were modeled across Oregon using the best available data and with the help of state and local fire professionals. Burn probability and fire intensity are based on four criteria:



Data regarding these criteria were combined with data from historical fires and simulations of 10,000+ plausible fire seasons, accounting for fire likelihood and intensity under everything from mild to severe fire weather.

Question: Why aren't any of the frequent Coffin Butte landfill fires included in the Benton County Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)?

I am concerned that a landfill with documented explosive levels of methane would be considered for location in a parcel rated as Moderate risk land adjacent to residential homes.

The Wildfire Hazard Map takes into account climate and weather, both of which are changing dramatically (perhaps accelerated by the massive unmitigated methane release from the landfill). It also factors in vegetation. It does not factor in explosive levels of methane, equipment fires, composting material, or battery fires, for example, which I believe make the current map misleading.

August 6, 2024 – At the Benton County Board of Commissioners (BoC) meeting, Republic Services reported to the BoC that they used the Covanta ash as daily cover because they do not have soil available for the daily cover, yet in the E20 Fire Risk Report the operating procedures state that 12" of soil is used for intermediate cover, 6" of soil is used for daily cover and that "Soil stockpiles arranged in a U-shape are always available near the Landfill working face in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developed by Republic Services corporate staff for all their landfills nationwide." This seems to be conflicting information.

Question: Is there soil available at Coffin Butte or not?

Five Mile Radius Around Coffin Butte Landfill:



Reports by the Institute for Home and Business Safety (IBHS Research Center) are finding that embers from wildfires can travel on the wind up to five miles in front of a fire. They ignite structures, trees, or landfill trash that then produces their own embers that can travel another five miles. These embers jump fire breaks in high wind situations.

I attended a webinar called Cascadia Wildfire and Urban Smoke. One of the hosts shared some film snippets and insights that are from the "Inside the LA Firestorm" documentary that recently aired on PBS. In that training, the film teams showed footage of the high LA winds blowing open trash can lids, the contents of which ignited from the wind born embers, and produced their own ember storm that ignited homes. I can only imagine the ember storm produced by a mountain of trash vs. the contents of an individual trash can.

During this same webinar the fire experts were explaining that in a wind event with fire, extinguishing the fire is not a matter of "putting the wet stuff on the red stuff" because when spraying water in high wind, the water dissipates before it ever reaches the fire. The E20 reports that "The site can readily use water to extinguish grass fires on the landfill or to supplement soil application at the landfill working face. The site has a 4,000-gallon water truck with spray bar and hose attachment that is used routinely in dry weather for dust control. The water truck is loaded with fresh water from a truck-loading station connected to the public water supply." Even if there is a 4,000 gallon truck (this should be verified independently), it will not be sufficient or effective in a wind event with fire to extinguish a blaze.

On September 27 a grass fire near the landfill at Granger and Pettibone spread quickly into the crowns and torched in nearby trees. More than 20 households had to respond to a Level 3 "Go Now" evacuation. The fire required five counties to respond and extinguish it.

If you look at the zoomed out aerial photo, you can see fire coming up from a tree. That is clearly the top of the tree burning like a candlestick. This is called "torching".

Once it's in the crowns of the trees like that, it's much more difficult to get it out, and it can run (jump) from tree to tree. When the fire is on the ground, firefighters can tackle it. When it's up like that, especially in a larger tree stand, you would need aerial support to be effective (helicopters, airplanes).

Fires can run very quickly in grass, which made it very wise for Bit by Bit and Joel to prepare to evacuate the last time the flares caught the grass field on fire. As soon as they hit trees, it can explode.

Within the past couple of months, there have been two PRC fires. They were one fire away from the PRC catching all of EE Wilson on fire. Thankfully, they had a smaller fire several weeks prior, Chief Harris recommended that they clear some vegetation right on the edge of the PRC, which they did with an excavator. The next fire that was larger very likely would have spread to EE Wilson, if that work had not been done. In that case, the fire department would've been working structure protection for the park buildings and residential structures, and would've been out of resources if it headed towards the landfill. When there are houses to protect, you let fires burn and open spaces. When it is in open space like EE Wilson and the winds are right, it blows the fire right towards the landfill. The normal guys that run the equipment at the landfill, were already busy working equipment at the PRC. Would Republic have additional people to stand between an oncoming wild land fire and their landfill?? Who would've called for aerial assets from Oregon State fire marshal? Does the landfill have that as part of their contingency plan?

All of these things could've been discussed if the landfill was part of the CWPP.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Corvallis Fire Department

Date: September 27, 2025

Time: 6:45 PM

Wildfire Prompts Level 3 Evacuations in Northeast Corvallis

Corvallis, Oregon – On Saturday, September 27, 2025, at approximately 3:00 PM, the Corvallis Fire Department and multiple cooperating agencies responded to a fast-moving wildland fire in the area of NE Granger Avenue and NE Pettibone Drive. The incident prompted Level 3 “Go Now” evacuations for residences in the immediate vicinity.

Fire crews acted quickly to contain the fire, and by approximately 4:15 PM, forward progress of the fire was successfully stopped. The swift and coordinated efforts of responding agencies were instrumental in preventing further spread and protecting both life and property.

Evacuation and Community Impact

Level 3 evacuations were issued for homes in the immediate vicinity of the fire. At this time, evacuation orders have been lifted.

No injuries were reported, and the only structure lost was a small outbuilding. Firefighters remain on scene conducting mop-up operations and monitoring for flare-ups. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Mutual Aid and Response

The Corvallis Fire Department received mutual aid from nearly all Benton County fire agencies, as well as neighboring departments from Linn, Lane, Marion, Polk, and Lincoln counties, and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Their combined efforts ensured a rapid and effective response to a dangerous and dynamic situation. The Benton County Sheriff's Office was in Unified Command with the Corvallis Fire and conducted emergency alerting and evacuations.

Statement from the Fire Chief

“We are extremely grateful for the support of our mutual aid partners and the cooperation of the community,” said Fire Chief Ben Janes. “This incident is a powerful reminder of the importance of regional collaboration and the need for continued community preparedness.”

Stay Informed

Community members are encouraged to stay informed through official communication channels and to sign up for emergency alerts via the Linn Benton Alerts Emergency Notification System <https://sheriff.bentoncountyor.gov/linn-benton-alert/>





The E20 goes on to say “Other control measures could be employed, such as firebreaks and soil barriers, to keep such fires off the Landfill property.” Another important point made during the webinar by fire experts was that firebreaks are not effective at stopping wind events with fire as the embers can travel up to five miles on the wind ahead of a fire.

We need to consider the risks of fires started outside the Coffin Butte Landfill, whose wind driven embers ignite the trash and/or explosive methane plumes at the landfill, that then blow into MacDonald and Starker forests, Adair Village, Soap Creek Valley, the Vineyard Mountain community, Lewisburg, North Albany, Airlie Road, Suver crossroads, Peavy Arboretum, Springhill Drive, Tampico Road community, etc. From there the ember storms can jump another five miles reaching Monmouth or Corvallis, Albany and Millersburg. A larger landfill is a larger target for airborne embers.

And we need to consider fires originating at the landfill from: pyrophoric materials (e.g. lithium ion batteries), automobile batteries crushed by landfill equipment, hot loads that ignite landfill contents, heavy equipment fires, underground fires from composting, lighting strikes, methane explosions, etc. Ember storms from these fires could be blown out as far as five miles and reach the same areas listed above.

Landfill Fires:

Coffin Butte catches fire regularly. In order to approve the expansion you must judge that the expanded landfill will **not** significantly increase the fire hazard, increase the suppression costs, or significantly increase risks to people engaged in fire suppression. The landfill runs counter to all of these concerns and values, by consuming firefighting resources that could be used to protect our residents, increasing costs to the community that supports our Adair Rural Fire and Rescue and the other stations that provide them mutual aid, and seriously risks the lives and health of our largely volunteer department and the lives of the Republic Services employees. Now combine this proclivity to catch on fire with the explosive levels of methane detected in leaks across the landfill property and we have some very concerning situations.

The E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report Prepared by James J. Walsh, P.E., BCEE, lists only five fires since 1999 as reported by Republic Services. There is a distinct mismatch between the report and the data provided by Adair Rural Fire and Rescue, which records 28 fires between 2013 and 2025. The five fires identified in the report are included below with the preface of “E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report”.

The table below is a summary of the Adair Rural Fire & Rescue calls responding to the Landfill (28), to the Republic Services Pacific Region Composting (PRC) (17), to fires near the Coffin Butte Landfill (111), and to Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA) near the landfill (195)

Question: Does the County know how many of these MVAs involve Republic Service’s vehicles?

Year	Landfill Fire	PRC Fire	Nearby Fire	MVA
2013	4	5	3	18
2014	2	1	7	22
2015	2	0	6	23
2016	3	0	7	17
2017	0	1	5	17
2018	4	2	5	21
2019	2	2	6	11
2020	1	0	12	9
2021	3	0	17	8
2022	0	2	8	17
2023	2	0	13	8
2024	5	2	11	12

2025	0	5	14	12
Total	28	20	114	195

Data current through October 8, 2025

The PRC fires are ones that Adair RFD had to respond to, meaning that Republic Services didn't leave staff on site to take care of it themselves. Of the 20 PRC fires, there's only been one fire the in recent years that Republic Services couldn't handle by themselves, because the equipment actually caught on fire. If these PRC fires occurred during working hours Republic Services handles them on their own and they don't call Adair Rural FRD. Other than that, if they're at work, they take care of it and don't call. The numbers imply that the majority of PRC calls over the years have been after hours, with nobody monitoring & someone from the public called it in.

I just had the realization that we should really be adding the PRC fires to the nearby fires, to get an accurate account of fires that could threaten the landfill. You could point that out if needed. The point of the nearby fire count is that they could catch local foliage on fire and it could head to the landfill. That is absolutely the case with the PRC, and very nearly happened this summer.

MVA count is for accidents on major roads around the landfill, the county should ask if and how many involved vehicles owned by republic or we're heading to and from the landfill.

It would be truly unfortunate if after all the work on the CWPP, if the fire that starts and burns peoples' homes down ends up starting at the landfill, which is the single place in Benton County where more fires have started over the past 50 years than any other single place in Benton County.

Reported by a former Republic Services Engineer:

Equipment fires which smoldered for days were a common occurrence. They were often caused when trash gets inside the engine compartments on the D9 dozers and packs around the turbos, causing the trash to start to smolder. This is so frequent an occurrence, that no reports were kept except on equipment repair orders, which only noted the nature of the damage being repaired. [This means no calls to the Adair Rural Fire and Rescue and no reports to DEQ.] The procedure was to pull equipment out of the trash and hose out the engine compartment where the trash had packed and caught on fire. Stir up the embers, hose them down, and if the equipment was still operational (note I did not say safe), put it right back into the trash.

Red Flag Day Monitoring at the Landfill:

From E20 Report:

7. MFA/LFCI Comment: For Grassland Fires, LFCI recommends that this document specify a measurable fire buffer distance between the landfill and surrounding grasslands. This fire buffer should be adequately maintained at all times. In addition, fire watch provisions or infrared monitoring should be implemented to manage ignition risks during off hours.

September 10 DSAC Meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Nh31cOelc>

Starting around minute 10

Paul Koster claims:

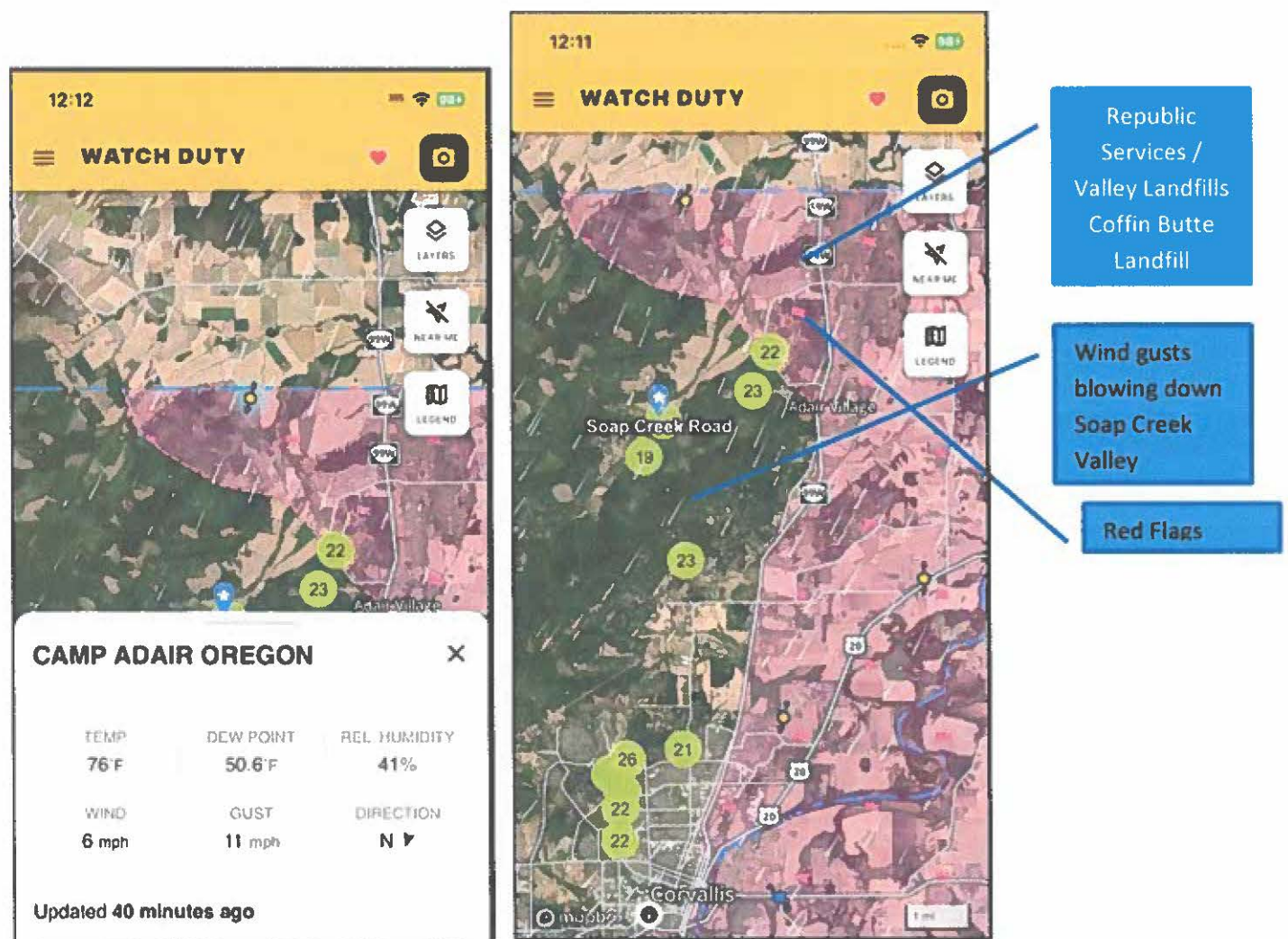
not inclined to add fire watch or fire suppression

15:30 Will not provide monitoring on Red Flag Days

18:34 Only 8 fires since 2013

Republic Services will not set up monitoring on Red Flag Days

See Appended Transcript from the September 20, 2025 DSAC Meeting



Red Flag Warnings

The local National Weather Service office issues Red Flag Warnings. These warnings are generally sent out via the same systems that send out other weather alerts, such as FEMA, National Weather Service, Red Cross apps, and weather apps.

It is highly recommended that you desist from any activities that have even the slightest risk of starting a fire.

All activities listed in <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/documents/wo-fire-danger-chart.pdf> should be avoided except motor vehicle use on approved roads. When driving you should carry a shovel and either one gallon of water or a 2.5 pound or larger ABC fire extinguisher.

The DEQ specifically prohibits burning the following:

- Rubber and plastic products.
- Tires.
- Wet garbage.
- Petroleum and petroleum-treated materials.
- Asphalt or industrial waste.
- Any material that creates dense smoke or noxious odors.

It is against the law to conduct any open burning that:

- Unreasonably interferes with enjoyment of life or property.
- Creates a public or private nuisance.
- Creates a hazard to public safety.

Oregon Department of Forestry Protected Land Public Use Restrictions

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) administers and enforces additional fire safety restrictions for all land under their protection. This includes all of Soap Creek Valley. Once fire season begins, ODF will post fire danger levels regularly. ODF announces fire season on its Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/WestOregonDistrict/>). Once fire season has been announced check <https://gisapps.odf.oregon.gov/firerestrictions/PFR.html> for the daily fire danger level for your location. By zooming in on your location you can check the fire danger level currently in effect. See Attached Chart to determine what activities are allowed, restricted, or prohibited. ODF Western District recently updated their text message program. All you need to do to sign-up is text: WESTOREGONFIREUPDATE to Phone # 833-615-1838. Using this program, ODF will inform everyone with a text message when they change fire danger levels for public use. Soap Creek Valley is in the area they designate as WO3. Red Flag Warnings

The Local National Weather Service office issues Red Flag warnings based on consideration of a number of factors that warn of conditions that could lead rapid or dramatic increases of wildfire activities. These warnings are generally sent out via the same systems that send out other weather alerts, such as FEMA, NWS, Red Cross apps.

It is highly recommended that you desist from any activities that have even the slightest risk of starting a fire.

All activities listed in <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/documents/wo-fire-danger-chart.pdf> should be avoided except motor vehicle use on approved roads. When driving

you should carry a shovel and either one gallon of water or a 2.5 pound or larger ABC fire extinguisher.

You can view current fire weather warnings for Soap Creek Valley here:

<https://www.weather.gov/wrh/fire?wfo=pqr&LAT=44.6599&LON=-123.2851>

Or navigate this map to check for other locations:

<https://www.weather.gov/wrh/fire?wfo=pqr>

E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report: The first notable fire at the Landfill occurred in 1999 and was its [the] largest fire to date, as reported in local media at the time. The site was owned and operated by Valley Landfills Inc., before site ownership and operation was assumed by large national waste companies—Allied Waste and Republic Services. The fire broke out in the exposed waste area of the daily working face and reportedly came from an undetected hot load from a large waste-transfer trailer known as a “waste tipper.” Apparently, the fire was not spotted and/or responded to quickly

enough and spread over the full extent of exposed waste surfaces. It reportedly expanded beyond exposed waste and burned some grass atop the Landfill and also burned and melted some of the above-ground plastic pipe serving as landfill gas headers.

On August 24, 1999, at around 6:30 pm, the landfill caught fire. This fire, large enough to be covered by the Associated Press as national news, burned for more than 24 hours, prompting fire crews from Adair Village, Corvallis, Albany, and Polk County to respond. The Landfill's owner said the blaze was caused by a 'hot load' delivered to the site. Corvallis Gazette-Times. August 25, 1999

Figure 6 - Karl Maasdam/Gazette-Times August 25, 1999. Permission to use granted by OWH News Archives and Licensing Manager.



E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report: [Approx. 2018] - A second fire broke out at the Landfill's working face about six years ago. The source of the fire is unknown, but was likely from a smoldering portion of a waste load delivered to the site during working hours. The fire went undetected during staffed daytime operations and broke through to the surface during the night and spread through some of the working face before it was observed by neighbors. Adair Fire quickly extinguished the fire with water.

E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report: A third fire occurred on grassed areas adjacent to the Landfill flare. The cause of the fire is unknown, but site operators believe there may have been an ember from charcoal buildup in the flare that ignited grass. The incident occurred during the workday and was quickly extinguished by Landfill personnel. Since then, **the areas around the flare at the site have been covered with gravel. With this improvement, it is believed that a repeat of a fire starting in this manner cannot occur.** (The author of this report, having significant experience with landfill fires, has never heard of a surface fire starting from landfill gas flare. I am skeptical that the fire occurred from this source and believe this grass fire likely came from some other source.)

E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report: A fourth fire was reported to have occurred on May 18, 2024. It is believed that a hot load was delivered to the working face from the public convenience center at the site. Although the subject waste was delivered during the operational day, it apparently was not an obvious hot load and on fire until after the site was closed that day. At about **6:00 pm** that day, a trail of smoke was seen rising from the working face of the landfill. The fire was reported to Adair Fire who mobilized to the site after first contacting site operating personnel. The site's Operations Manager and Operations Superintendent responded to the site within 15 minutes of contact from Adair Fire. Site personnel immediately used heavy equipment to extract the affected waste from the working face, moving it nearby to an area isolated from the waste at the working face. Site personnel then used the equipment to apply soil over the

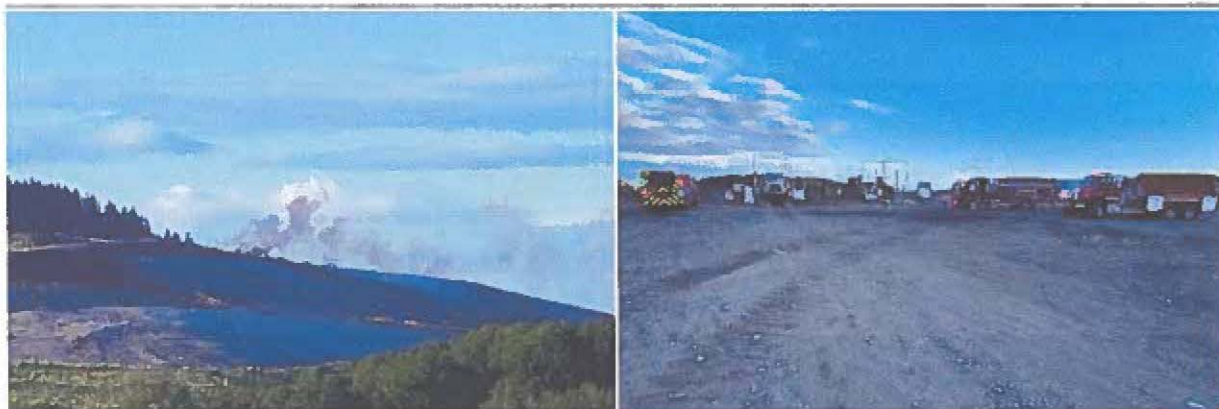
waste. The fire was soon extinguished. After that, the waste was observed for another hour, to ensure it did not re-ignite.

Adair Rural Fire & Rescue's Post

Adair Rural Fire & Rescue

[May 18, 2024](#)

At 7:04pm, Saturday 5/18, Adair Fire was dispatched to a smoke investigation at the top of the Coffin Butte Landfill. Firefighters arrived to find burning trash damaging both hydraulic transfer truck lifts. The lift fires were quickly knocked down. We greatly appreciate the assistance from [Corvallis Fire](#) to send an additional fire engine and tender to help extinguish the trash. Landfill employees operating a dozer and backhoe were instrumental in the effort to completely put the fire out. Adair Fire was on scene for 1 hour and 25 minutes.



E20 – Fire Risk Assessment Report: A fifth fire occurred on July 24, 2024. A small fire ignited in a grassy area near the landfill's flaring station. Again, the fire was observed from off-site and reported to Adair Fire. Adair Fire notified site operating personnel, who live nearby and mobilized to the site in 12 minutes. By then, Adair Fire had already

extinguished the grass fire with water. The source of the fire is unknown. But since this event, the ground in a large area around the enclosed flare has had its grass removed and replaced by a gravel surface.

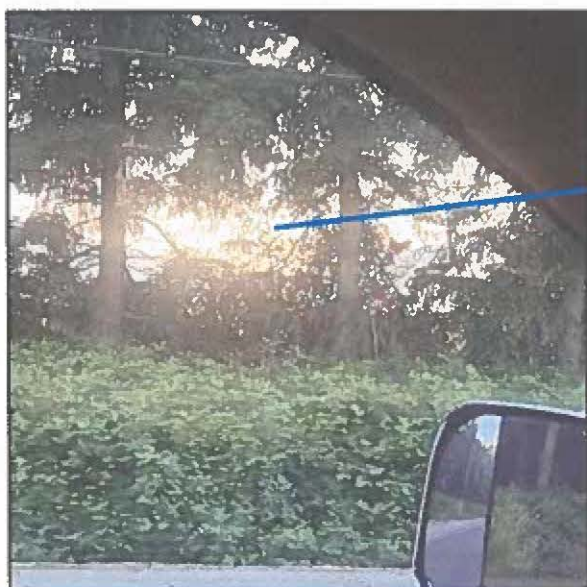
It is notable that Republic Services reported to the Fire Assessment team that they placed gravel around the flare after the earlier reported event and that “a repeat of a fire starting in this manner cannot occur”, but it clearly did.

Also of note is the fact that “The author of this report, having significant experience with landfill fires, has never heard of a surface fire starting from landfill gas flare.” And yet we have two such events in a matter of a year. This calls into question both Republic Services operations and preventative measures and the expertise of the author hired to write this report for the applicant.

OPB reported that on July 24, 2024 firefighters responded to a grass fire near a flare stack that burns off methane gas from the landfill.

Adair Rural Fire and Rescue was onsite prior to Republic Services response to this fire.

Photos below are from the July 24, 2024 Flare Fire:



Smoke is visible from the road by passing citizens.



There is a direct run of dry berry stocks out to the road and along the road leading directly to neighboring homes



Brush not gravel
around tank and
flares. Fire around
tank and dry grass is
concerning and a risk
to nearby residences.



Brush, not gravel
surrounds tank and
flares.





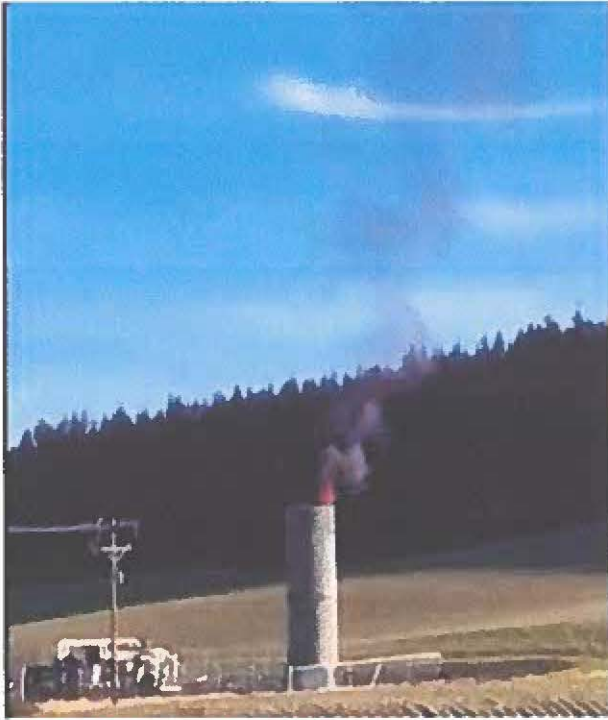
This fire ended up burning over a quarter of an acre. If it had not been called in by a passing citizen, it had ample paths to quickly reach neighboring properties and forestland.

The linked evidence is of yet another flare fire from the enclosed flare:

BOC1_T0384 - Oct 13, 2025 - EKLUND Ken - <https://youtu.be/pU1jIT9Mplo>

Video • File Name: Video 07 Evidence in Opposition - Enclosed Flare on Fire

Mr Walsh states in the E20 report that: Landfill flares tend to burn clean, with no residue or solids of any kind expelled from the flare. I would direct your attention to the video above of both flame and black smoke being belched from the top of what is supposed to be an enclosed flare. This footage directly contradicts Mr. Walses' assertion (screen shot of this flare with flame and black smoke below).



Coffin Butte "enclosed" flare above



Granger/Pettigrew grass fire with engulfed trees above

Now picture the fire above with the same circumstances that just caused an "Go Now" evacuation at Granger and Pettigrew as shown above right where wind blew a grass fire into the trees that then torched into the crowns.



Above: Fence high dry grass surrounds and partially covers the Coffin Butte Landfill. An arsonist, a spark from a dragging chain, an ember from a nearby fire, a lightning strike, or a carelessly tossed cigarette could ignite the grass and the explosive levels of methane leaking from multiple sites across the landfill surface.

Possible Landfill Fire April 9, 2025 7:05 PM - A neighbor was out on E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area this afternoon. From the archery range she saw smoke or steam coming up, and a bunch of people working on the area with heavy equipment.

This possible fire was not called in to Adair Rural Fire and Rescue.

E20 Addendum - #12 states that bird deterrent flairs are not used at the landfill. There are recent witness accounts of bird deterrent flairs in use at the Coffin Butte landfill and they are being used in the presence of explosive levels of methane gas. This is alarming.

BOC1_T0381 - Oct 13, 2025 - EKLUND Ken - <https://youtu.be/QbgMoAVTcyk>
Video • File Name: Video 04 Evidence in Opposition - Fireworks set off at the landfill

A 45-second video showing Republic people setting off fireworks to scare birds right over the working face of the dump.

High County News - Where the garbage goes

Jaclyn Moyer

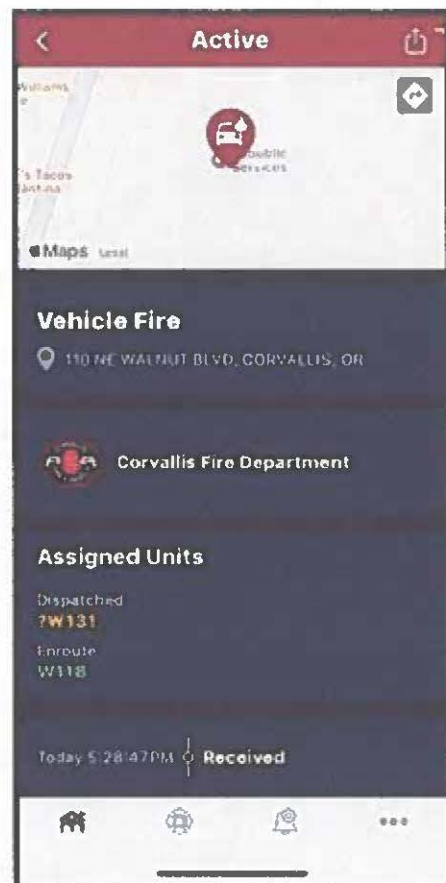
“Suddenly, a loud pop followed by a sharp squeal pierced through the drone of machinery. I pulled the binoculars away to watch a ribbon of smoke curl upwards and hundreds of gulls flap into the air. A moment later, another pop sent more birds rising in an uproar of squawks. A landfill worker was shooting off small pyrotechnics to shoo them. This struck me as comically absurd until Yeager reminded me that, according to the last EPA report, explosive levels of methane were leaking from this dump.”

I have not seen any indication that proper PPE is available for the Republic Services staff, or an indication that they have been trained to use it properly to protect their health. This seems to be an undue burden on the employees.

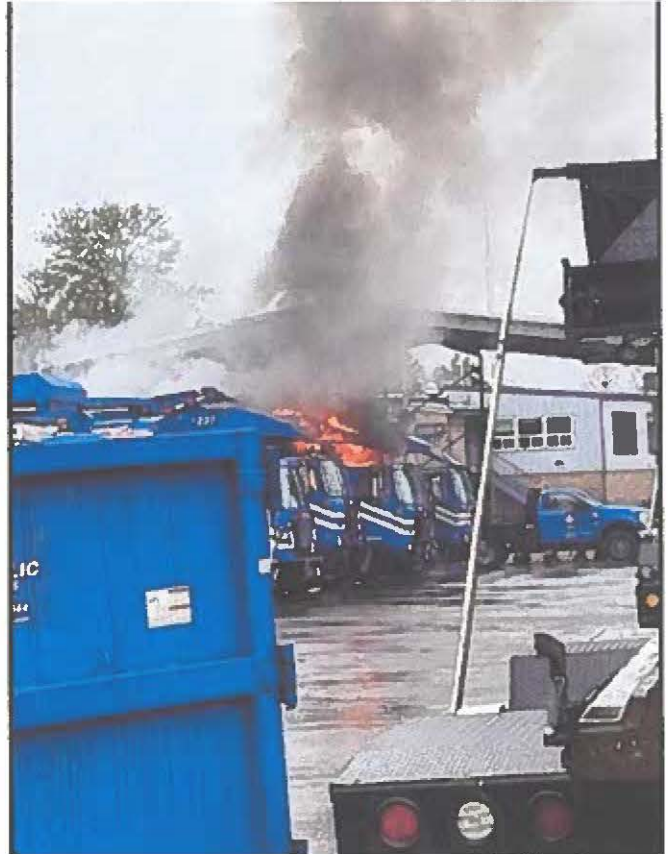
I think that it is significant to note that many of these fires occurred after hours and the reporting mechanism was citizens driving by who call Adair Rural Fire and Rescue. This is a significant burden on the citizens in order to protect the area from fire. August 6, 2024 – At the Benton County Board of Commissioners meeting, Republic Services reported to the BoC Republic Services reported that they “do not have a way to monitor for fires after hours and that they rely on citizens and Adair Rural Fire and Rescue for monitoring and subsequent response. Republic Services was also asked if they have a mechanism to alert residents in the area in the event of a fire. Again, they said, “No, that they relied on Adair Rural Fire and Rescue to do the alerting. This is a serious burden on our local services.

Garbage Truck and Hot Load Fires:

Below are accounts of hot load and garbage truck fires that occurred off the landfill site. Mr. Walsh describes the procedure for handling a hot load on the landfill, but does not address the procedure, fire risk or even the possibility that a hot load could be dumped off site.



April 6, 2025 5:28 PM – This fire occurred on Walnut in Corvallis.



Trash truck hauls fire home: Firefighters follow garbage hauler to site to extinguish blaze

- **By the Gazette-Times**
- **Apr 23, 2002**



RYAN GARDNER/Gazette-Times

Foam flies as Corvallis Fire Lt. Brian Stone hoses down a pile of smoldering garbage at a Corvallis Disposal lot off Belvue Street near Highway 99W. The garbage caught fire inside a truck while it was on the south end of Corvallis Tuesday afternoon. The truck was driven to Corvallis Disposal, the garbage was dumped out and firefighters extinguished the blaze.

No one was injured but a Corvallis Disposal truck was damaged Monday afternoon when garbage it was carrying caught fire.

A pair of Corvallis fire trucks escorted the truck through town about 3 p.m. to a Corvallis Disposal lot, where firefighters put out the fire.

Fred Penning, operations manager at Corvallis Disposal, did not know what caused the fire.

Penning estimated the damage at \$1,000 to \$2,000, depending on whether any electrical systems or hoses would have to be replaced. He also said the truck would have to be repainted.

The truck had been picking up garbage from homes in south Corvallis when the driver noticed smoke coming from the back of his truck. He first stopped at a home and used a garden hose to try to put out the fire. When that didn't work, he called the Corvallis Disposal office and then drove to the fire station on Tunison Avenue. Firefighters determined that the truck's load would have to be dumped to reach the fire.

One fire truck led the garbage truck while another followed it to a Corvallis Disposal lot on Belvue Street. Once the truck was emptied, firefighters quickly put out the fire.

"It got pretty hot," Penning said.

Penning said this was the third such fire in his two years at Corvallis Disposal.

"It is too often," he said.

**Garbage Truck Fire on Overpass in Eugene, OR southbound I5 bridge over the Willamette just before the 191 exit
October 27, 2024 (not Republic Service, but an example of a truck fire away from the landfill)**



Garbage Truck Explosion along road in Lindberg, MO – October 2025



Thursday, June 19, 2025 – Hot Load dumped on Evergreen Rd in Philomath

8:04 a.m. — Firefighters responded to a report of a garbage truck fire. According to a report, the garbage truck's driver was headed east on Evergreen Road when he noticed smoke coming from the garbage compartment. The driver stopped the vehicle and unloaded the contents in the eastbound lane of Evergreen and pulled the truck clear. The driver put an extinguisher on the fire and gained some control, the report states, but leaving 18-inch flames coming from a grill that had been loaded into the truck. Evergreen was shut down in both directions while firefighters extinguished the fire. The garbage truck reportedly had no damage. The investigation suggested that the grill was the source of the ignition.



https://www.reddit.com/r/Wellthatsucks/comments/10ok15d/burning_garbage/

“For anyone interested, I used to work for Republic Services as a mechanic. What the driver is doing is the correct action. Might not be the best area to do it. But it had to be done.

That truck is running a 9L Cummins ISL engine that uses compressed natural gas. Above the body of the truck in that smashed up rectangular box are 4 or 5 CNG fuel tanks that hold 3600 psi of CNG. This is the older style body before they started using the Odyssey Heil bodies where they relocated the tanks to the back of the tail gate.

Having a “hot load” where the contents inside the body are on fire is an extremely dangerous situation. You can try to override the blade travel position and crush the load as much as possible to snuff the fire out. Sometimes it works, sometimes it don’t. Next course of action is to dump the load and get away from it. There is no onboard fire suppression system outside that fire extinguisher you see on the side of the truck.

Yeah it makes a huge mess that’s expensive to clean up, but it’s a lot safer than turning the truck in to a bomb. In the event that the load can’t be ejected because it’s too far gone, the situation can get out of control quickly. Fire departments now have to deal with a fire with an unknown fuel source (lithium ion, hydraulic oil, wood, yard waste... who knows) sitting right under enough CNG to blow the truck and anyone near it in to a fine mist. Never had to hear about dealing with that personally in the few years I worked there. But it’s still scary to think about. “

“Hot Mess in North Fresno After Trash Truck Dumps Burning Load”

<https://gvwire.com/2024/08/29/hot-mess-in-north-fresno-after-trash-truck-dumps-burning-load/>

Luckily in the Fresno event the driver had just received training on hot load and had an empty lot nearby.

Longtime Soap Creek resident report: “There was a hot load dropped out on Military or Robison. It was 2000-2002, so not with Republic. But since we have so much rural area surrounding the landfill, anywhere they dump a hot load nearby would pose a high threat of getting into fields/forests and causing a wildfire.” There are no empty lots along our rural Benton County roads like the Fresno driver above had in his situation.

All of the “hot load” fires above were handled by police and fire departments and luckily did not cause property damage. No doubt they had adverse impacts on the environment and posed health and safety risk to the police and fire department that handled them as well as the garbage truck drivers. Now let’s consider what happens when the hot load dump occurs in some dry grass or flammable surroundings.

The Sandalwood Fire in Riverside , CA– Occurred on October 10, 2019 when a garbage truck dumped a hot load into dry vegetation. This fire killed two people and injured 3, burned 1,011 acres, and destroyed 74 structures and damaged 16

others by the time it was extinguished.



Above is footage of the of the dump vehicle as it pulled off in the dry vegetation to dump its hot load.

Resources Assigned

247 Personnel	1 Helicopters	17 Engines	1 Water Tenders	10 Crews
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Numerous firefighting air tankers from throughout the State are flying fire suppression missions as conditions allow.

Above are the resources assigned to address the Sandalwood fire. This constitutes a significant burden on utilities and services. This type of fire is not out of the realm of possibility here in Benton County, given Republic Services record.

"After a trash truck dumped a fiery load, dozens of mobile homes burned and an 89-year-old woman died"

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-10-18/calimesa-mobile-home-sandalwood-fire-lois-arvickson>



Judy Dorius of San Diego salvages iron pot stands from the burned remains of the home where their mother, Lois Arvickson, 89, died after the Sandalwood fire burned her mobile home and many others at the Villa Calimesa Mobile Home Park in Calimesa. (Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times)

Batteries and Other Items Cause Oregon Landfill Fires:

<https://kpic.com/news/local/car-battery-thrown-in-trash-sparks-wildfire-at-landfill-in-douglas-county>

OPB reported in October of 2023 on the growing risk of lithium battery fires in Oregon landfills. Lithium battery fires are particularly dangerous. If damaged, or if their contacts touch metal, they are particularly susceptible to thermal runaway. Lithium batteries can burn without oxygen because they create their own oxygen. The fire that they produce is considered a chemical fire and produces highly toxic fumes. They burn at temperatures in excess of 932 degrees F which can easily ignite surrounding material. They are exceptionally difficult to extinguish. Republic does not inspect the loads that come to the landfill. Lithium batteries in are everything now, including: electronic devices, like laptops and phones, tooth brushes, hand tools, yard implements, handheld radios, battery backup power sources, etc. They are everywhere and they pose unique fire challenges and danger to firefighter, landfill personal, and area residents. E20 indicates that there is signage posted at the landfill, but they do not inspect their loads.

Question: What is Republic's plan to address this ever growing issue?

Car battery thrown in trash sparks wildfire at landfill in Douglas County

by News Staff

Thu, August 20th 2020 at 1:43 PM

The most recent fire was caused by an "an improperly discarded automobile battery that exploded and caught fire when it was run over by a trash compactor working in the landfill," the county said. Other items to watch out for include cell phones, home electronics, charcoal briquettes, wood stove ashes, cigarettes, propane fuel tanks and cylinders, fireworks, explosives, radioactive materials, lighters, oil, oil soaked rags, chemicals and cigarettes. (Douglas County)

ROSEBURG, Ore. - When you throw something away in Douglas County, it goes to the landfill. And when what you throw away is flammable, it can set the landfill on fire. That's been the case in the past - and this week - at the county landfill.

"We have experienced landfill fires in the past and after identifying the causes, we know that most of the fires could have been prevented with a little help from our residents," Douglas County Commissioner Tom Kress said. "So, we are asking residents to take a little extra time to separate and properly dispose of flammable and combustible materials, and make sure that hot waste items are cooled and contained before they place them in a garbage can or dispose of them at a transfer station."

According to the county:

Landfill fires are especially dangerous, not only with the potential to start a wildfire on neighboring lands, but also because they can cause injury to employees and fire crews, and they can emit dangerous fumes from the combustion of the wide range of materials contained within the landfill.

Luckily, the recent fires were quickly contained by staff at the landfill, which prevented the spread to the nearby hill sides.

"It is extremely dangerous for our solid waste staff, as well as fire crews to fight fires at a landfill," said Gabe Forrester, manager of the Douglas County Solid Waste Division. "Between navigating the steep terrain with fire equipment, preventing the spread of fires to neighboring lands, enduring the extreme heat caused by combustible materials and avoiding potentially toxic fumes, there is an incredible safety and health risk."

The most recent fire was caused by an "an improperly discarded automobile battery that exploded and caught fire when it was run over by a trash compactor working in the landfill," the county said.

Other items to watch out for include cell phones, home electronics, charcoal briquettes, wood stove ashes, cigarettes, propane fuel tanks and cylinders, fireworks, explosives, radioactive materials, lighters, oil, oil soaked rags, chemicals and cigarettes.

The county offered these tips for handling potentially flammable waste:

Lithium-ion and Lithium-polymer Batteries: These kinds of batteries are commonly found in cell phones, tablets, notebooks, computers, RC cars and other electronic children's toys. Locally you can recycle these at Lowes and Batteries Plus Bulbs. Additionally, Batteries Plus Bulbs and Call2Recycle will accept alkaline, rechargeable, dry/wet cell and miscellaneous batteries. For all other electronics that contain batteries, the closest location for disposal is at the Lane County Hazardous Waste Collection Center - Glenwood Transfer Station, 3100 E. 17th Ave. in Eugene. Please remove the batteries and do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags.

Cell phones, Tablets, Notebooks and Computers: Most cell phones or tablets can be recycled or traded-in with your phone service provider, or at an ECO-ATM kiosk located inside your local Wal*Mart, Safeway and Fred Meyer stores buy or recycle them for you. You can also contact the local Lions Club or Call2Recycle for local locations that recycle these

items. For all other communication devices that contain batteries, the closest location for disposal is at the Lane County Hazardous Waste Collection Center - Glenwood Transfer Station, 3100 E. 17th Ave. in Eugene. Please remember to remove batteries and do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags.

Electronics and Televisions: Sunrise Enterprise locations will accept most home electronics, including computers and TV's for recycling. For all other electronics, the closest location for disposal is at the Lane County Hazardous Waste Collection Center - Glenwood Transfer Station, 3100 E. 17th Ave. in Eugene. Disposal is by appointment only, so please call for more information and to make an appointment, (541) 682-4120. Please do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags.

Auto and Boat Batteries: The Douglas County Landfill and All Transfer Stations will accept auto and boat batteries for recycling. Or you can typically trade in these kinds of batteries and receive a core credit or discount on your next battery purchase at a local store. Call local stores and inquire about "take back" or other recycling options. Please do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags.

Charcoal Briquettes, Coals and Hot Ashes: Close the lid and vents to your charcoal grill for 48 hours until ash has completely cooled. Soak ash with water to reduce potential for combustion. Place the completely cooled ash in a plastic bag or in a plastic container before placing it in a non-combustible garbage bin for disposal. The same method applies for the proper disposal of cigarettes, fireplace ashes or fire pit coals. Make sure the coals, briquettes and ashes are completely cooled and dead out for disposal. Please do not place hot waste items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags.

Propane Tanks: The Douglas County Landfill and All Transfer Stations will accept propane tanks for recycling with the valves removed. Or you can call the retailer where you purchased your propane tank, and inquire about "take back" or other recycling options. Please do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags.

Used Fireworks: Submerge used fireworks in a bucket of water and soak overnight. Wrap soaked fireworks in plastic so they do not dry out and place in a non-combustible garbage bin before disposal. Unused fireworks cannot be thrown away in your regular garbage. Please contact a hazardous waste collection center for disposal information.

Explosives and Radioactive Materials: Explosives and radioactive materials cannot be thrown away in your regular garbage. Please do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags. Please contact a hazardous waste collection center for disposal information.

Lighters, Oil, Oil Soaked Rags and Chemicals: Lighters, oil, oil soaked rags and chemicals cannot be thrown away in your regular garbage. Please do not place these items with your regular refuse or in garbage bags. Please contact a hazardous waste collection center for disposal information.

Smoking or Vaping: A safety reminder that Smoking or Vaping is not permitted inside the gates of the county landfill or at any of the County Transfer Station locations. Please do not place lit cigarettes or flick hot cigarette butts into our disposal bins or throw them away with your regular refuse or garbage bags.

Lightning:

What happens if one of the 2000 lightning strikes that Oregon experienced between Wednesday July 17 and Sunday July 21, 2024 randomly hit a particularly explosive methane release? These fires endanger the life and safety of our firefighters, and are likely to blow embers and toxic plumes into residential neighborhoods. Embers are the leading fire ignition source in a fire. As stated above the embers can travel on the wind up to five miles in front of a fire.

Lightning is capable of igniting methane above ground and it is also capable of igniting pockets of methane deep within

the ground.

Lightning strike causes methane fireball

A food waste plant erupted in a ball of flames after it was struck by lightning near Wallingford, Oxfordshire, at 17:20 BST on Thursday.

It ignited the methane gas stored inside.

Eyewitness Emma Shepperd said: "I was trying to film the lightning, and looking out the window, and it struck the top end - that's when it caught fire."

Subsection [Oxford](#)

Published 17 June 2016



Oxfordshire Methane Explosion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQ7SSUv8yVU>

Lightning strike causes huge explosion at Oxford recycling plant

Witnesses report large 'fireball' in sky at Severn Trent Green Power facility but no one is thought to have been injured in the blast

[Donna Ferguson](#)

Mon 2 Oct 2023 17.33 EDT

A lightning strike at a recycling plant in Oxford caused a huge gas explosion and local power outages.

Eyewitnesses reported hearing a loud bang and seeing a "fireball" lighting up the sky.

Emergency services are attending the scene, but a representative from Severn Trent Green Power told the PA news agency that no one was injured in the incident.

Video and images shared on social media show a pyramid of flames on the horizon, inside a yellow and orange

mushroom-like shape.

Severn Trent Green Power confirmed that biogas from a container had ignited at its Cassington AD Facility, near Oxford airport, at about 7.20pm and it was working with emergency services to secure the site.

The facility processes more than 50,000 tons of solid and liquid waste each year.

Ana Cavey, who lives in Somerton, about 15 miles north of Oxford, told Sky News: "We've had the most unbelievable thunder and lightning storm ever ... it came out of nowhere and the noise was incredible."

She said her power had been cut off for most of the evening and has only just come back on.

Another witness told the Oxford Mail they saw a "strange pulsing sky out of our windows".

Power outages have been reported in Witney, Burford, Chipping Norton and Milton-under-Wychwood, according to the BBC.

Other witnesses reported seeing "orange lightning" and hearing what sounded like a car crash outside their home. "The sky was glowing for about two minutes and then it just disappeared," one person wrote on social media.

A statement from Thames Valley police said: "Our officers are currently at the scene of a fire at a waste plant near Yarnton, [Oxfordshire](#)."

"It is believed that lightning struck gas containers at the site during bad weather this evening, causing a large fire."

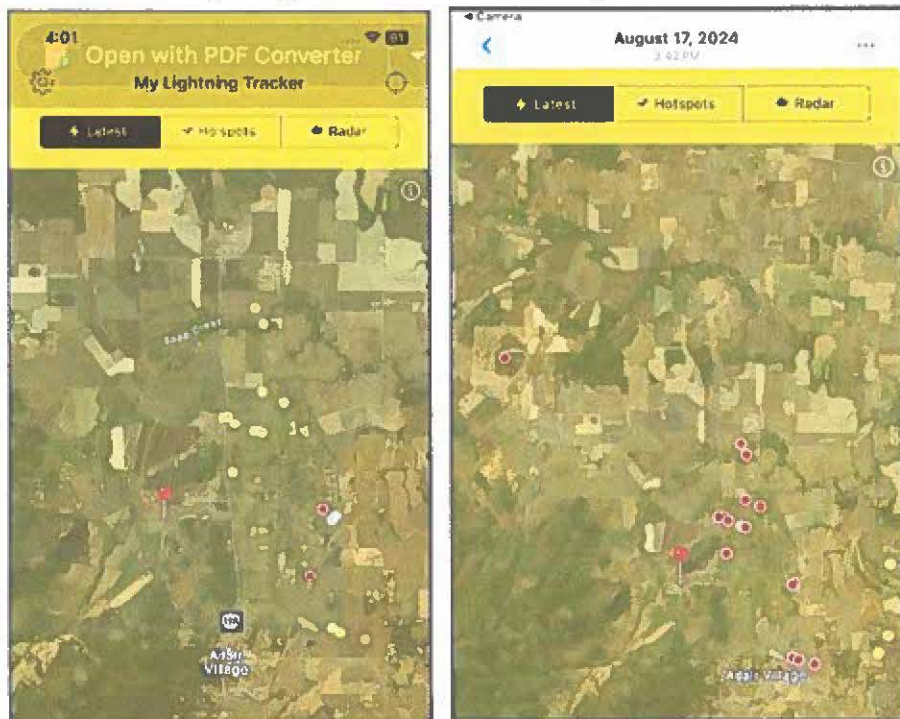
The Met Office had issued a yellow weather warning for thunderstorms in Oxford on Monday evening.

The following are records of lightning strikes in and around the Coffin Butte Landfill:



Above: August 17, 2024 9:26 AM Red Pin is Coffin Butte

Red dots lightning strikes less than 30 minutes ago
Yellow dots are lightning strikes over 30 minutes ago



August 17, 2024 4:01 PM Red Pin is Coffin Butte
Red dots lightning strikes less than 30 minutes ago
Yellow dots are lightning strikes over 30 minutes ago



September 6, 2024 8:24 PM Red Pin is Coffin Butte
Red dots lightning strikes less than 30 minutes ago

Yellow dots are lightning strikes over 30 minutes ago

Motor Vehicle Accidents with Garbage Trucks



Driver sent to hospital after crash involving garbage truck

- [By: Robert Desaulniers](#)
- Aug 16, 2024 Updated Aug 16, 2024

https://www.kezi.com/news/driver-sent-to-hospital-after-crash-involving-garbage-truck/article_15de7b52-5c00-11ef-bc22-b33531231e8d.html

Garbage truck hits pedestrian near Jefferson and 15th, Corvallis OR

Traffic

Reported: 10/8/2025 10:15 AM

SW 15th St & SW Jefferson Way, Corvallis, OR 97331

A garbage truck struck a pedestrian near Jefferson Avenue and 15th Street resulting in injury.

Monday, May 21, 2021

On Monday, May 31, the Benton County Sheriff's Department was called to 5055 Elliott Circle, where there had been an accident involving a pedestrian and a garbage truck.

Deputy Brian Lundy arrived to find that 75-year-old Eugene Linwood Lang had been backed over by an Allied Waste Garbage truck around 8:00 a.m. Lang was transported to Good Samaritan Hospital with severe injuries. Unfortunately, he succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead at the hospital that afternoon.

[Highway 20 closed near Albany due to garbage truck rollover](#)

[Albany Democrat-Herald](#)

<https://democratherald.com › local › crime-and-courts>

Jun 2, 2023 — *Highway 20 between Corvallis and Albany was closed* after a garbage truck rolled over late Monday morning, April 11, according to a news ..

[Driver sent to hospital after crash involving garbage truck](#)

[KEZI](#)

<https://www.kezi.com › news › driver-sent-to-hospital-aft...>

Aug 16, 2024 — A person was sent to the hospital after a crash south of Corvallis Friday morning that *totaled an SUV and damaged a garbage truck*.

[Garbage truck hits pedestrian near Jefferson and 15th ...](#)

[NewsBreak: Local News & Alerts](#)

<https://www.newsbreak.com › crime › corvallis>

Oct 8, 2025 — *A garbage truck struck a pedestrian near Jefferson Avenue and 15th Street* resulting in injury. Audio | Source: Benton County Public Safety.

[Corvallis Man Hit by Garbage Truck, Witnesses Sought](#)

[The Corvallis Advocate](#)

<https://corvallisadvocate.com › corvallis-man-hit-by-gar...>

Jun 21, 2021 — Deputy Brian Lundy arrived to find that 75-year-old Eugene Linwood Lang had been backed over by an Allied Waste *Garbage truck* around 8:00 a.m. ...

Missing: ~~vehicle~~ | Show results with: [vehicle](#)

[Benton - Fatal Traffic Crash on Highway 34 Under ...](#)

[Facebook · Benton County Sheriff's Office](#)

[320+ reactions · 6 months ago](#)

[Highway 20 closed near Albany due to garbage truck rollover](#)
[Albany Democrat-Herald](#)

<https://democratherald.com> › [local](#) › [crime-and-courts](#)

Jun 2, 2023 — *Highway 20 between Corvallis and Albany was closed after a garbage truck rolled over late Monday morning, April 11, according to a news ...*

Missing: ~~vehicle~~ | Show results with: [vehicle](#)

[Daily Activity Log - Benton County Sheriff's Office, Oregon](#)
[Benton County Sheriff's Office, Oregon \(.gov\)](#)

<https://sheriff.bentoncountyor.gov> › [daily-activity-log](#)

[Yesterday. Corvallis Fire responded to a reported truck fire at ...](#)

[Instagram · corvallis.fire](#)

[0:24](#)

BC 118 and Engine 131 responded. Reports were a full sized **garbage truck** on fire in the compressed natural gas fueling area, prompting a request ...

[Garbage truck and semi-truck crash closes Highway 99 ...](#)

[Albany Democrat-Herald](#)

<https://democratherald.com › accident-and-incident › u...>

Jul 26, 2022 — UPDATE: *Garbage truck and semi-truck crash closes Highway 99 near Monroe.* MID-VALLEY MEDIA; Jul 26, 2022; Jul 26, 2022 Updated ...

Vegetation Fire:

E20- Fire Risk Assessment states: The risk is low for wildfires starting off site to come on site, and there is no history of wildfires in the area of the Landfill. And yet there were 111 nearby fires recorded by Adair Rural Fire and Rescue between 2013 and 2025.

Story updated at 8:20 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9, 2022

A significant grass fire in South Salem that brought evacuations to the Vitae Springs Road South area has been surrounded by firefighters but has not been fully contained, officials said Friday night.

The fire was reported at 4:02 p.m. and spread in the area south of Vitae Springs Road.

Salem emergency manager Greg Walsh said fire crews would remain on the fire and nearby through the night and until any danger has passed.

"It's in a very difficult-to-access area," Walsh said, adding that the **dry weather, high heat and expected winds of 25 mph tonight are reason for concern.** "The fire is still ongoing. We cannot get to all of it. We have crews out there essentially surrounding it, but not containing it."

This fire was 18 miles away from Coffin Butte Landfill with 25mph winds and could have reached the landfill in less than 1 hour in a high wind event situation.

Rural firefighters urge caution during hot weather after grass fire near Adair Village

By: Robert Desaulniers Jul 4, 2023 Updated Jul 4, 2023



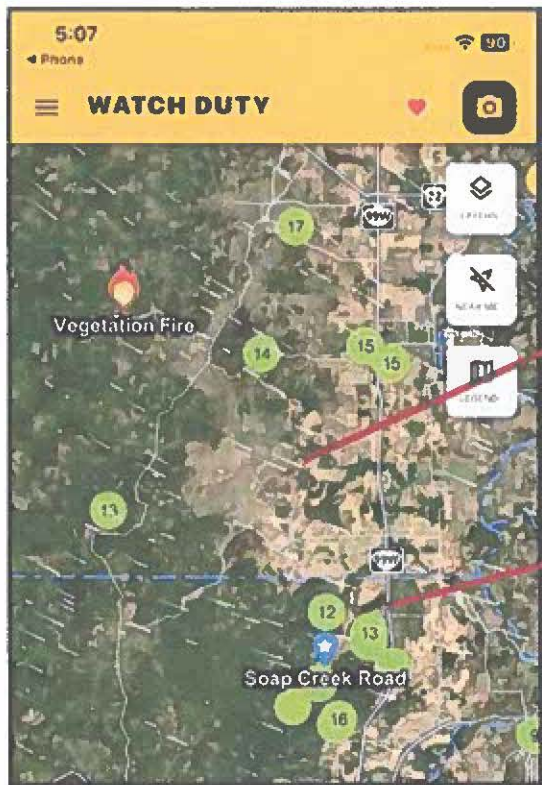
July 2, 2023

ADAIR VILLAGE, Ore. – A small pump house was lost but nobody was injured in a grass fire near Coffin Butte Landfill early Sunday morning, according to Adair Rural Fire and Rescue.

According to firefighters, crews responded to a reported grass fire on Wiles Road near the Knife River Quarry and Coffin Butte landfill at about 12:45 a.m. on July 2. Adair Rural Fire said crews arrived to find a grass fire that was rapidly spreading, and covered a total of about 1.5 acres. Firefighters said they were able to contain the fire before it did any damage to a nearby home, trailer and barn, but a pump house was unable to be saved. Firefighters said there were no injuries, but the cause of the fire is not yet known.



Firefighters said the fire didn't spread far because it happened at night when temperatures were relatively low, humidity was relatively high, and wind was calm. **Adair Rural Fire and Rescue said that if the fire had started during the day, when it was hot and windy, it could have been much worse.** Adair Village firefighters joined fire officials all over the state in urging extreme caution during Fourth of July celebrations and on the hot days still to come.



Vegetation Fire October 16,
2024 5:07 PM

Wind coming from
NW towards the
landfill

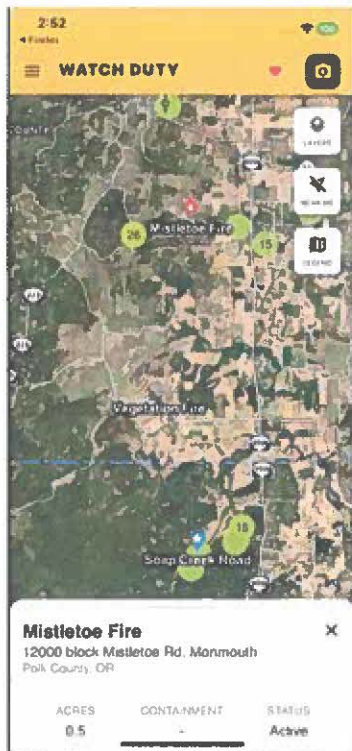
Coffin Butte
Landfill



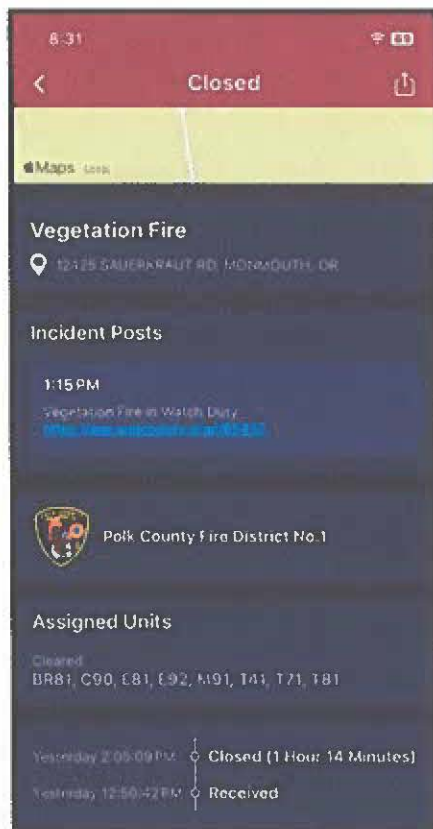
July 17, 2025 Nearby Fire Arnold/Ryals



October 8, 2025 – Mistletoe Fire Nearby



October 8, 2025 – Sauerkraut Rd – Nearby Fire



Wood Chip Fire at Pacific Region Composting (PRC):

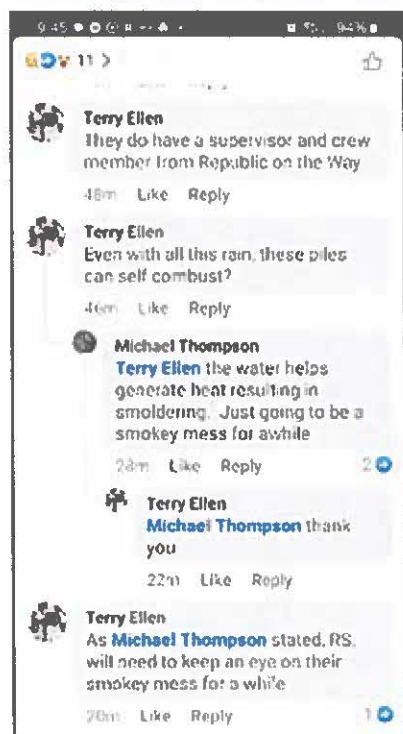
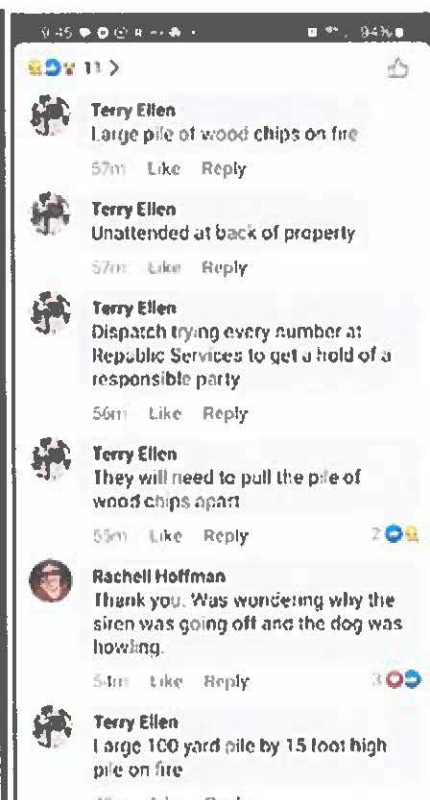
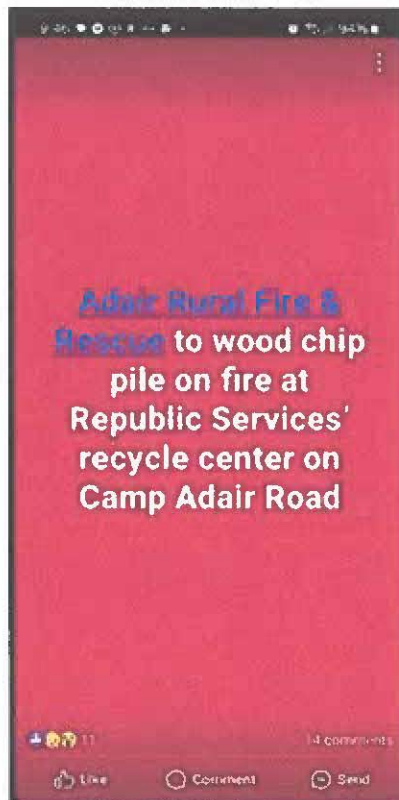
Friday, November 11, 17, 2023 8:35 AM



Question: Was this fire reported to the DEQ? Answer: No, this fire was not report to ODEQ.



Smoke investigation 9/24/24 7:44pm
Pacific Region Composting (PRC)



Sunday, January 5, 2025, 9:45 AM

Reported by a citizen passing by the Pacific Region Composting (PRC)

The pile was unattended and the Fire Department was having difficulty reaching anyone from Republic Services.

This fire was NOT reported to ODEQ.

Economic Impact of Wildfire to Benton County:

A red flag day with low humidity, high temperatures and strong winds coming from the north could take one of the many landfill fires quickly through the Soap Creek Valley, Adair Village, McDonald and Starker forests, Vineyard

Mountain, and down into Corvallis and North Albany. This is a significant financial burden on our communities, a significant burden on our services, a significant burden on our citizens, their homes, families, livestock, pets, a significant burden on our industry, including farms and forestry, and business, an overwhelming burden on our firefighters and will absolutely interfere with the uses on adjacent property and with the character of the area.

Question: Does Republic Services and Valley Landfills application include a bond that would cover the catastrophic losses of an event like this now, or after they close shop and leave the landfill to the County and its residents to manage? The \$16 million insurance, certainly will not address this magnitude of event.

Economic Impact



\$7,224

Expected Annual Loss Caused by Wildfire
Benton County, OR

\$107,037,018,461

Total Exposure to Wildfire
Benton County, OR

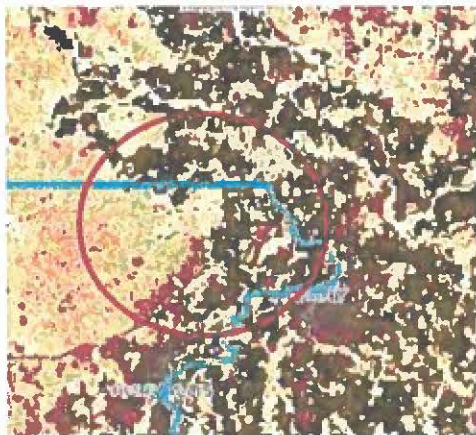
Sources: FEMA NRI 2023

From the Fire Risk Reduction Profile for Benton County:

<https://reports.mysidewalk.com/b4dd6dbfce>

Overall Potential Impact of Wildfire:

From the Wildfire Risk Explorer Report:



Overall potential impact (if a wildfire were to occur)	
	Very High
Overall potential impact is very highly negative (top 5% of values).	
	High
Overall potential impact is highly negative (80-95th percentile).	
	Moderate
Overall potential impact is moderately negative (50-80th percentile).	
	Low
Overall potential impact is slightly negative (30-50th percentile).	
	Low Benefit
Overall potential impact is slightly beneficial at low flame lengths (15-30th percentile).	
	Benefit
Overall potential impact is slightly beneficial, with a cumulative positive impact of fire (0-15th percentile).	
	No Data (blank)
There are no highly valued resources or assets mapped in the area or it is non-burnable (urban, agriculture, barren, etc).	

Red circle above is an approximate 5 mile radius of wildfire impact around Coffin Butte Landfill. Note the number of Very High potential risks is this area.

Per the Wildfire Risk Explorer Report: Overall potential impact represents the exposure or consequence of wildfire on all mapped highly valued assets and resources combined, including critical infrastructure, developed recreation, housing density, seed orchards, sawmills, historic structures, timber, municipal watersheds, vegetation condition, and selected terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat.

This area includes the Historic Soap Creek Valley Schoolhouse and the Old Growth Forest Trail, Anderson Blues, etc.

Accessed from the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer on July 21, 2021

In addition to all of the risks above, is the risk of fire along what should be the safest emergency fire exit route for the nearly 200 households of the Soap Creek Valley. What happens if a Coffin Butte fire ignites the Soap Creek Valley and then, what should be the safest exit route for its residents is blocked by flames and toxic fumes from a landfill fire?

53.215 (1) FIRE SERIOUSLY INTERFERE WITH USES ON ADJACENT PROPERTY There has been testimony (Erin Bradley & Joel Geier) regarding the threat that a fire on the landfill poses to their properties, with the recent fire last summer causing them to evacuate persons and animals from their nearby property when a flare caught the grass on fire

53.215 (1) FIRE SERIOUSLY INTERFERE WITH CHARACTER OF THE AREA A fire that destroyed structures and forests would result in a significant impact in the character of the area, as can be seen from before/after photographs taken in the aftermath of various Oregon fires, including the towns of Phoenix, Talent (structures) in the aftermath of the Alameda fire in 2020

53.215 (2) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ON PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS A fire that started at the landfill could damage public improvements, including power and water infrastructure.

53.215 (2) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ON PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS If there is an artificial canyon made out of methane-generating garbage on either side of Coffin Butte Road, a fire that started elsewhere and spread to the landfill (via burning embers) could prevent Coffin Butte Road from being a safe egress route for Valley residents and keep EMS personnel from sending firefighting equipment up the valley.

53.215 (2) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ON PUBLIC FACILITIES A fire that started at the landfill could damage public buildings like schools and government offices, and areas with cultural significance (for example EE Wilson structures, and the historic Soap Creek Schoolhouse) could be damaged or destroyed.

53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ADAIR RURAL FIRE AND RESCUE: DANGEROUSLY STEEP SLOPES The Applicant has told the EPA that the surface of the existing landfill is too steep and dangerous for EPA personnel to walk over with hand-held air quality monitoring devices. But to access a fire on the surface of the landfill, fire personnel will have to access these same surfaces (and possibly spray water on slippery tarps to fight a surface fire). This is a threat to the life and safety of firefighting personnel and an undue burden.

53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ADAIR RURAL FIRE AND RESCUE: ADDITIONAL 59 ACRES OF SURFACE ON WHICH FIRES MIGHT IGNITE The increase in the landfill surface area is 135% of existing flat surface area, without taking slopes into account (like the roof of a building, the surface area of the roof is greater than the two-dimensional building footprint). An increased surface on which fires will have to be fought is a threat to the life and safety of firefighting personnel and an undue burden.

53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ADAIR RURAL FIRE AND RESCUE: ADDITIONAL 9,000,000 CUYD OF METHANE-GENERATING WASTE IN PLACE The proposal will increase waste in place by 120% over existing waste-in-place. More waste-in-place means more methane. Methane is currently being released as fugitive emissions from the landfill in explosive concentrations. An increased amount of explosive methane is a threat to the life and safety of firefighting personnel and an undue burden

53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ADAIR RURAL FIRE AND RESCUE: GEOMETRY OF THE PROPOSAL The proposal will create an artificial canyon made of garbage on either side of Coffin Butte Road, each side of which will producing methane at explosive levels. The new topography will intensify fires moving uphill and increase wind speed if a fire ignites on either side of the artificial canyon. Fighting fires in an artificial canyon made of methane-producing garbage is a threat to the life and safety of firefighting personnel and an undue burden.

53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN CORVALLIS FIRE Hot loads could be dumped by the side of any road in Corvallis where there is garbage truck traffic to the landfill. Therefore a fire like the deadly Sandalwood fire could ignite anywhere and if conditions were conducive to fire spread, could pose an undue burden to City of Corvallis firefighting personnel.

53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN OTHER RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS Hot loads could be dumped by the side of any road in Benton County where there is garbage truck traffic to the landfill. Therefore a fire like the deadly Sandalwood fire could ignite anywhere and if conditions were conducive to fire spread, could pose an undue burden to City of Corvallis firefighting personnel.

Conditional Use Criteria for the Forest Conservation Zone - Chapter 60

60.220 Conditional Use Criteria. (1) A use allowed under BCC 60.205 or 60.215 may be approved only upon findings that the use: (a) Will not force a significant change in, or significantly increase the cost of, accepted farming or forest practices on agriculture or forest lands; (b) Will not significantly increase fire hazard or significantly increase fire suppression costs or significantly increase risks to fire suppression personnel; and (c) Complies with criteria set forth in BCC 53.215 and 53.220.

Excerpt from the City of Adair Comprehensive Plan:

SECTION 9.612 FIRE PROTECTION & EMERGENCY SERVICES

There are few serious fire hazards within the City or the District. The area has a very light commercial fire hazard with the most significant life hazard being the schools. **The District's greatest hazard is the wild land interface properties and the landfill.** The District has enjoyed Mutual Aid agreements with the neighboring fire departments since the early 1980's and has established a first alarm mutual response policy with the Corvallis Fire Department, Albany Fire Department, and SouthEast Polk Fire District.

Excerpt from newspaper article on the Landfill risks:

So far, fires have remained isolated to the landfill, but residents of Soap Creek Valley fear that the increasing severity of wildfire conditions in Oregon could cause one of these blazes to spread to the surrounding hills. "We're in a valley with limited ways out," Eklund said. He worries that if the landfill caught fire, Coffin Butte Road would be impassable due to flames and toxic smoke from burning waste. "It's a nightmare scenario."

Question: If there was a fire at Coffin Butte Landfill that completely shut down the ability to dispose of trash, where would Republic Services send all of the incoming trash? Basically, what are the details of Republic Services back up disposal site plan?

I strongly oppose LU-24-027 and urge you to deny its approval. Conditions have never been enforced, so approval with conditions is the same as approval without conditions. Please do not approve this CUP.

From October Staff Report P. 72 Add this to documentation about firebreak):

(b) Will not significantly increase fire hazard or significantly increase fire suppression costs or significantly increase risks to fire suppression personnel; and

Pre-Planning Commission Decision, evidence cited by Staff:

Applicant evidence:

- Record ID. BC016 Burden of Proof, p. 60
- Record ID. BC016 Cover Letter from Miller Nash RE: New Materials and Staff Report responses, p. 112
- Record ID. BC016 Engineering Plans (Exhibit E2), Sheet 6, p. 148

Staff Response, Planning:

Staff concurs with the Applicant's findings and conclusion, as supported by 3rd party engineering review findings (Record ID. BC015 Compiled County Engineering and Public Works Comments, p. 2 - 37). Staff did not see fire risk concerns raised with the development proposed within the FC zone (i.e., leachate ponds, employee building, shop/maintenance area, driveways, etc.). See also discussions of Fire Risk under BCC 215(1) and (2) above. FC zone siting requirements are

discussed below; Staff recommends **Conditions P2-7 and OP-15**, ensuring consistency with FC zone fire break standards.
(c) *Complies with criteria set forth in BCC 53.215 and 53.220.*

Staff Report P 107:

OP-10	Fire Protection. (A) Applicant shall maintain at least two 4000-gallon+ water trucks in good repair, with at least one truck present at the landfill site at all times to help extinguish fires. At such time as Applicant may replace or update the water trucks or other firefighting infrastructure in the expansion area, such new truck or equipment will provide protection equal to or better than the truck or equipment being replaced. (B) Applicant shall maintain a log of all fire incidents on Applicant's property used for landfill activities and accessory uses. Applicant will provide a verbal report of any fire events that have occurred since the last meeting at each Benton County Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC) meeting. Applicant shall report all fire incidents to DEQ. (C) Applicant shall conduct semi-annual fire-protection and emergency preparedness training of its on-site personnel. (D) Applicant shall provide 24-hour per day on-site surveillance and monitoring of the landfill expansion area during red flag days.	53.215(1) Adjacent Properties and Character of the Area – Fire Risk
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October 20, 2025

To: landfillappeals@bentoncountyor.gov

Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027 – Fire Rebuttal July 1

Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

My Credentials:

Soap Creek Valley Firewise Co-Chair

Studied Fire with: Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM), Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), OSU Extension, Oregon Emergency Management (OEM), Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IHBS)

Landfill Adjacent Homeowner Since Mid-90's

Resides in the Odor "Shadow" of Coffin Butte

Witness to Changing Ecosystem

I am writing because I strongly oppose any expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill and urge you to uphold your Planning Commission's unanimous denial of LU-24-027, Republic Services' application to expand the Coffin Butte Landfill. The Planning Commission carefully considered all evidence provided by the applicant, as well as considerable testimony, and concluded unanimously that the application did not meet the required Burden of Proof.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the future of the Coffin Butte Landfill, a decision of great concern

to our community.

I appreciate this opportunity to expand on the VNEQS submission in response to the Applicant's various responses to issues raised by VNEQS submitted June 10, 2025. My testimony addresses the subject of fire.

As stated in VNEQS submission, "two additional fires have occurred (a "hot load" dumped in Philomath, and a fire at the propane refueling facility). Those fires place areas of Benton County that are far removed from the landfill at risk."

In my testimony I posed several questions regarding if landfill and PRC fires has been reported to Oregon DEQ as required in their permit. To this end a request was made to ODEQ for information on Republic Services' fire reports.

This is the request that went to Oregon DEQ for information on fire reports:

Hello Oregon DEQ – from various documents I understand that landfill operators are required to send DEQ a report about fires at their facilities. So, my request: I'm looking for communications, from January 1, 2022 to the present day, between the Coffin Butte Landfill operator (known variously as Republic Services or Valley Landfills) and Oregon DEQ, about fires either at the landfill or at its companion facility, Pacific Region Compost (PRC), and any reports or other attachments. Thank you! – Ken Eklund

This is the table of fires that Adair Rural Fire and Rescue has responded to at or near the Landfill, PRC, surrounding area and Motor vehicle fires for the same time period of January 1, 2022 to the present:

Year	Landfill Fire	PRC Fire	Nearby Fire	MVA
2022	0	2	8	17
2023	2	0	13	8
2024	5	2	11	12
2025	0	5	14	12
Total	7	9	46	49

Below are the only two reports submitted by Republic Services to ODEQ regarding fires during this time period. Two is a far cry from sixteen. As I pointed out in my Fire Risk testimony, there are other fires that have occurred at the landfill, which Adair RFD did not respond to and Republic Services did not report to ODEQ.

October 31, 2023 PRC (Report of fire that occurred on October 30 and was reported by a citizen to the county, then by the county to ODEQ)

PRC Fire Report

From: Macnab, Ian
<IMacnab@republicservices.com>

To: FILIP Craig * DEQ

CC: Kienholz, Broc
<BKienholz@republicservices.com>
; Raborn, George
<GRaborn@republicservices.com>

Sent time: 31 Oct, 2023 9:43:43 PM

Craig,

Yesterday afternoon at PRC a stockpile of overs started to smoke. In response our operations began spreading out the pile to cool it off. This led to a few small areas of flames that we extinguished. It's common for this material to generate excess heat and in rare occurrences, catch fire. The smoking was largely stopped later in the day although small areas continue to smoke slightly. We will continue to monitor the stockpile for excess heat and respond accordingly. Let me know if you have any questions.

Ian Macnab
Environmental Manager - Oregon

28972 Coffin Butte Rd
Corvallis, OR 97330
● imacnab@republicservices.com
● 541-230-5543
● 541-230-4022
w RepublicServices.com

Reply from ODEQ after inquiry from the county:

It's my facility, and Ian McNab with PRC notified me of this incident at 1444 on 10/31, in compliance with the fire notification requirement of their permit.

Best,

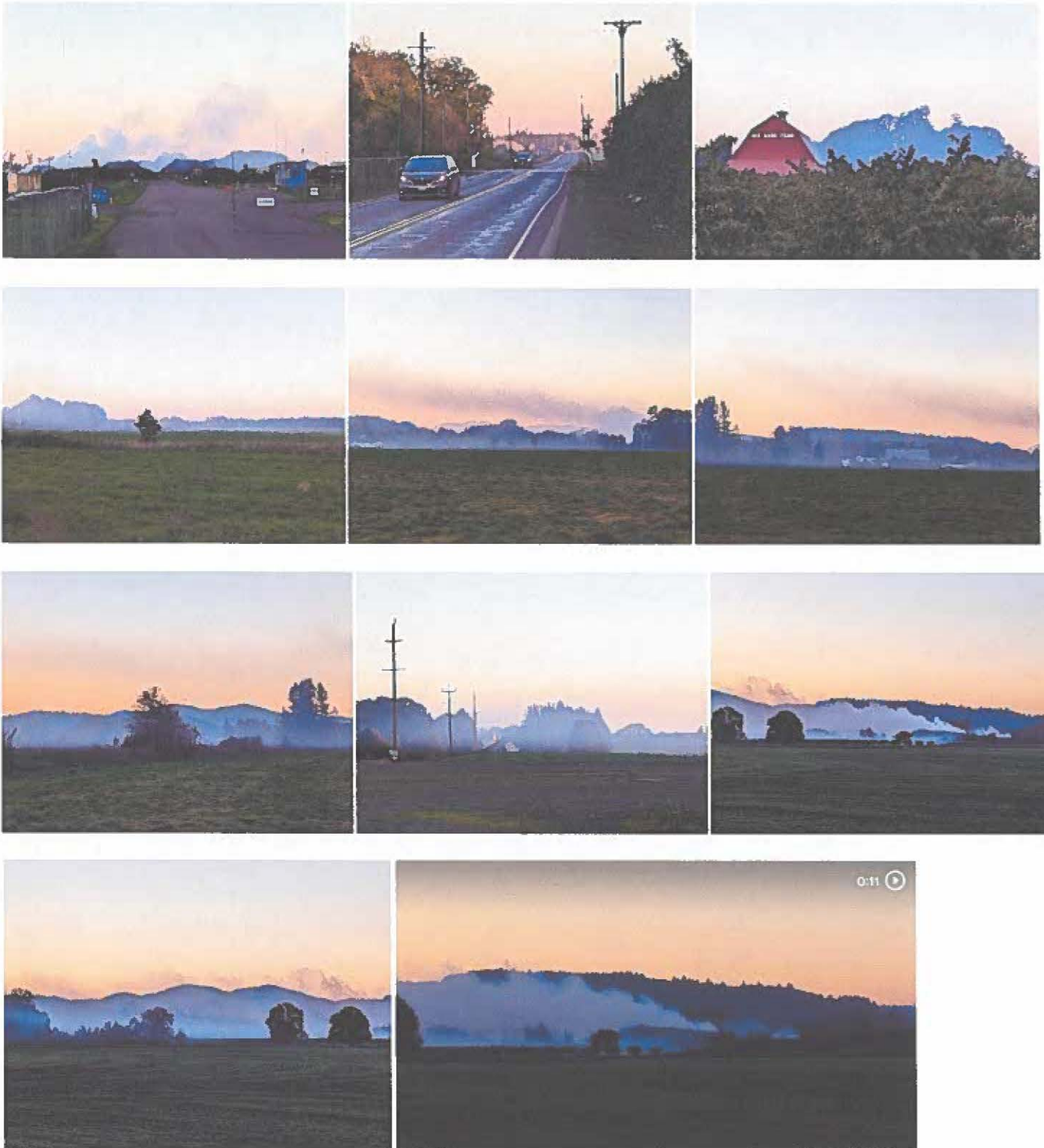
Craig C. Filip (he/him/his)

Solid Waste Permit Specialist

DEQ - Eugene, (541) 686-7868

Below are pictures of this October 30, 2023 PRC fire as captured by a resident:





The movie above at the following link shows the full extent of the smoke plume as it pans from north to south:

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipNf4CCldYXvQct6Bk2xbwM6GUffrk4XJc4POygAIDwdy1ciCafKCilgydBTHXBzBw?pli=1&key=ZDRmSHVPZnVDbGx6eWxFYzdqdzVWRVh6X01uMXhn>

This is the resident's report of this event. A recipient from the county sent it to DEQ.

"While biking yesterday evening on Camp Adair Road (north of Corvallis), I noticed a huge cloud of smoke coming from Republic Services' composting facility ("Processing and Recovery Center" or PRC). I was concerned about the fire, so I went to see if I could find someone from Republic Services to talk to. Unfortunately, no one was in the office or at the weigh station. I've created an album with photos and videos showing the smoke coming from the smoldering fire which you should be able to access here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/q59s9dimFMhVVZkZ6> (please let me know if you're unable to view the images and videos). I've attached two of the photos for reference below.

The smoke from this fire was drifting over a large area south of the facility, extending roughly 2 miles south on Independence Highway. It had earlier drifted a long way to the east, along Camp Adair Road, extending to Springhill Road (before the wind shifted). The intensity of the smoke definitely made it unhealthy to breathe. I had to hold my breath while biking through the worst of it (and changed my route to avoid it).

I would like to know more about this incident. Were you aware of it? I can only assume it was an unplanned (and unpermitted) incident. Does the PRC operate under a permit from DEQ? If so, does the permit allow these kinds of unplanned fires? What corrective action(s) will be taken to prevent these kinds of events in the future? Will any fines or other measures be taken to stop this kind of pollution from happening in the future?"

May 19, 2024 Landfill Fire

Coffin Butte LF Fire Notification

From:

Macnab, Ian
<IMacnab@republicservices.com>

To:

GAO Hugh * DEQ

CC:

Kienholz, Broc
<BKienholz@republicservices.com>

Sent time:

19 May, 2024 6:23:15 PM

Hugh,

Yesterday evening we had a small fire at Coffin Butte. Coffin Butte's staff and Adair Fire extinguished it in about an hour. The fire was limited to the landfill working face and there was not any damage to the landfill liner or gas collection system. We are unsure of the exact cause, but the fire but it appears to have resulted from a load that was dropped off in the public dumping area.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Ian Macnab
Environmental Manager - Oregon

28972 Coffin Butte Road
Corvallis, OR 97330
• imacnab@republicservices.com
• 541-230-5543
• 541-230-4022
• RepublicServices.com

As a reminder this was the report from Adair on the same fire:

"At 7:04pm, Saturday 5/18, Adair Fire was dispatched to a smoke investigation at the top of the Coffin Butte Landfill. Firefighters arrived to find burning trash damaging both hydraulic transfer truck lifts. The lift fires were quickly knocked down. We greatly appreciate the assistance from Corvallis Fire to send an additional fire engine and tender to help extinguish the trash. Landfill employees operating a dozer and backhoe were instrumental in the effort to completely put the fire out. Adair Fire was on scene for 1 hour and 25 minutes."

Note that both Adair Fire and Corvallis Fire were involved in extinguishing this fire. Also of interest is that if one public load is suspected as the "cause" (per RS ODEQ email), how did two hydraulic transfer truck lifts get damaged?

Shouldn't a Standard Operation Process (SOP) report to ODEQ on a fire include other details like: the type of fire, cause, location, duration, environment exposure, staff exposure, if Adair Rural FD was called, if there was a mutual assist from additional fire departments, how the fire was reported and by whom, what effort/measures were taken to extinguish the fire, what remediation steps were being taken to prevent a similar future fire, etc.?

If Republic Services' SOP states that fires will be reported to ODEQ, why were only two of thirteen known fires involving Adair Rural FD reported to ODEQ in the period of January 1, 2022 to the present?

The ODEQ require that all fires are reported to them.

8. Fire. The Applicant submits the attached June 5, 2025, memorandum from James Walsh of SCS Engineers (Applicant's Ex. 44) responding to testimony on fire risk at Coffin Butte Landfill.

In the event of any temporary shutdown due to an emergency, catastrophic event, or landfill fire, DEQ will be notified in accordance with OAR 340-239-0700(3)(n).

From James Walsh Rebuttal on June 5 to Public Comment:

3. Reporting Fires at Coffin Butte Landfill

Comment: It was suggested that Coffin Butte compile a running log of landfill fire incidents. And develop Incident Reports for each landfill fire. And that the Landfill's Operations Plan commits it to report each landfill fire event to OR DEQ.

Response: In response to community comments related to being apprised of fire events, Coffin Butte will maintain a log of fire incidents at the Landfill and a Coffin Butte representative will provide a verbal report on fire events at each Benton County Disposal Site Advisory Committee meeting. Further, Coffin Butte will ensure it is reporting each fire event to OR DEQ.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: Republic Service's Permit already requires that they submit a fire report to Oregon DEQ. Republic Services is failing to comply with this requirement now as evidenced by 2 fire reports out of 13 fires, so there is no reason to believe that they would keep this commitment in the future.

REMINDER: APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS IS THE SAME AS APPROVAL WITHOUT CONDITIONS

4. Magnitude of Landfill Fire Risks

Comment: One public commenter cited the SCS report as identifying 5 fires at Coffin Butte Landfill from 1999 to 2025 which they suggested was inconsistent with records from Adair Fire that report 28 calls for fire at the Landfill between 2013 and 2025. It was further stated that the SCS report identified 3 types of landfill fires that represent a material risk. There are many additional fire risks beyond those 3. The commenter concluded that

the SCS report drastically under-represented the number, types, and magnitude of landfill fire risks.

Response: As the report makes clear, the 5 fires reported were those material and memorable to landfill staff, and representative of each of the 2 kinds of landfill fire that the landfill has experienced to date: working face fires and grass fires. It wasn't intended to identify any and all fires. Further, the landfill is confident there are only 3 types of landfill fires that could pose a material risk at Coffin Butte Landfill. Any others beyond those 3 have never occurred at the landfill, and we do not have a reasonable basis to believe there ever will be. The report fairly represents the number, types, and magnitude of landfill fire risks. Fires at the landfill have been safely and correctly managed to date, and will be so in the future, ensuring no significant impact on the community or environment.

The landfill abides by the state of the practice for landfill fire management like at any other modern MSW landfill. Many will recall the 1999 landfill fire that was significant. That was when the site was owned and operated by the prior operator, not Republic Services. The only way that could have occurred is if many acres of waste were left uncovered and exposed for weeks on end. Republic covers all waste at the confined daily working face at the end of each working day, with very few exceptions which are quickly addressed. There is no reasonable basis to believe that a fire of that size would reoccur with Republic Services.

DSAC Meeting Transcript September 10 2025

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Nh31cOelc>

Paul Koster says:

Timestamp: 14:25 – 14:40

Paul Koster says: "We have daily pictures that we record that make sure that we're actually covering the working face with either soil or tarps and we have those pictures are taken by our working staff every night before we close to ensure that all the trash is covered."

One example of a partially covered working face after hours:



Info
Add a Title
IMG_4060.HEIC
February 25, 2024 12:37:34 PM

Sunday

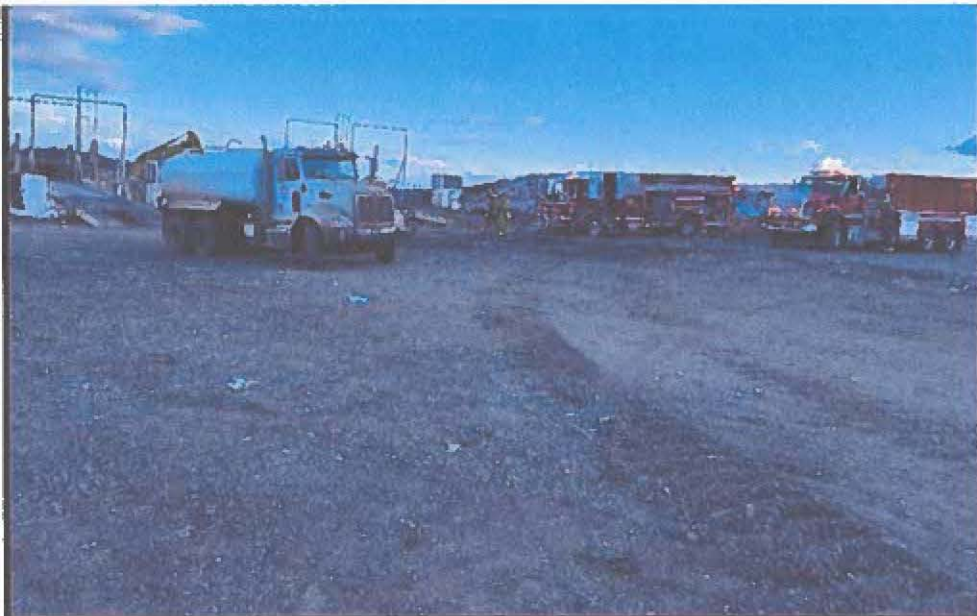
Uncovered
trash

LU-24-027 Opposition – Fire Risk From Landfill Expansion



Acres of uncover debris are visible in the above photos, in front of, between and behind the fire trucks.





CBL working face fire 2.jpeg

JPEG Image - 3.8 MB

Tags Add Tags...

Created Today, 4:14 PM

Modified Today, 4:14 PM

Content created Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 7:39 PM

Dimensions 4032x3024

As you can see these photos were taken at 7:39 PM on Saturday, May 18, 2024 after closing of the landfill. Republic people have all gone home, and won't be back until Monday morning. That fire could have burned all night Saturday and all day Sunday and really gotten down into the landfill's guts. We are fortunate that we have Adair Rural Fire, but this is a great illustration of 53.215 (1) FIRE UNDUE BURDEN ADAIR RURAL FIRE AND RESCUE: DANGEROUSLY STEEP SLOPES The Applicant has told the EPA that the surface of the existing landfill is too steep and dangerous for EPA personnel to walk over with hand-held air quality monitoring devices. But to access a fire on the surface of the landfill, fire personnel will have to access these same surfaces (and possibly spray water on slippery tarps to fight a surface fire). This is a threat to the life and safety of firefighting personnel and an undue burden.

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S103247095?view=photos>

The photos below were taken on Sunday, February 20, 2022

Sun 20 Feb 2022 8:05 AM

Coffin Butte Landfill--Active Dump Area  Benton County, Oregon, United States

W. Douglas Robinson

Traveling Complete 

1  1 hr, 14 min  0.6 mi

MEDIA POWERED BY MACAULAY LIBRARY

 28

Species Observed

+1 other taxa,
1,153 individuals

 2

Species with Photos

1 Glaucous Gull

pics/distant so it is possible there is some hybridiness to it



1 Lesser Black-backed Gull

Probably first county documented record. Seen from 44.70295, -123.22892. Feeding with the main gull flock on trash pile near top of dump. Parked at EE Wilson coffin butte lot and walked up ridge to view gulls. Eagles regularly stirring flock so hard to keep view on specific birds but good that they get mixed regularly. I did not see this bird in many of the first scans across the flock. Seems to be a 3rd cycle/2nd winter plumaged bird.



The dump surface is clearly NOT covered on this day after hours.

From Joel Geier:

I have a few more recent photos that I took from Wiles Road on a Sunday, and submitted as part of a report to DEQ. In that case Paul Koster was forced to acknowledge that yes, they hadn't covered up the trash on a weekend. Denise McWhorter at DEQ remarked that it was one of the few times VLI has ever admitted to not covering their trash. I can hunt those up for you before noon tomorrow -- but right now I have a good head of steam on writing my groundwater testimony, so I don't want to get sidetracked.

Today, Sunday, October 19, 2025, while out for a walk around 1:30 pm, I counted 32 ravens, 18 gulls, at least 3 bald eagles, and about 300 starlings above the current tipping area in Cell 6. I couldn't see up into the landfill from Coffin Butte Road, but I did see a raven fly up with a big chunk of food, which it dropped when an eagle started to chase it. When that many birds are up there all the way into mid-afternoon, that means they're finding quite a bit of food up there, that didn't get properly covered on Saturday night.





5. On-Site Water Truck

Comment: It was reported that the 4,000 gallon water truck on site is defective, does not work, and would offer no value in extinguishing landfill fire.

Response: That statement is completely false. Landfill staff report that the subject water truck has been in continuous service in past years and is fully available at all times to help extinguish fires. In fact, that truck has been employed many times over the years to help extinguish both grass fires and working face fires.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: The water truck cannot operate on the steep landfill slopes and water is ineffective at extinguishing lithium battery fires (which also do not require oxygen to burn)

June 20, 2025 File No. 27223197 MEMORANDUM

TO: Republic Services
FROM: James Walsh, P.E., BCEE, SCS Engineers
SUBJECT: Rebuttal to Public Comments Received June 2025 To Benton County Planning & Zoning Commission On Landfill Fire Potential at Coffin Butte Landfill From Valley Neighbors for Environmental Quality and Safety

#6. FACTUALLY INCORRECT STATEMENT BY CONSULTANT WALSH: *"There are three plausible fire scenarios (working face/grassed area/gas well fire)." IN FACT*, there are many, many more plausible fire scenarios, including many that would endanger lives and property well beyond the area of the landfill itself:

- **PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO 1:** a dumped "hot load" (fire burning in the garbage truck, so to minimize truck damage the driver dumps the entire load by the side of the road "hot load" dump caused the deadly Sandalwood fire in California that destroyed 70+ structures and resulted in two fatalities); **SCS REBUTTAL:** This would be either a working face fire or a grass fire – two of the plausible scenarios already identified. If this were to occur on the landfill property, it would be quickly identified and ex extinguished.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: A hot load can be dumped anywhere along the trash truck routes as in Sandelewood where it burned 70+ structures. A hot load was recently dumped in Philomath.

- **PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO 2:** Lightning strike (see testimony, Virginia Scott); **SCS REBUTTAL:** This would be likely be a grass fire, one of the plausible scenarios.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: Please see the SCS Engineering Report "Understanding and Managing Landfill Fires: A Guide to Surface and Subsurface Hazards" attached to this testimony that states: "Surface Fires - Surface fires are directly visible and can be caused by several factors, including hot loads (items in a postcombustion state that are smoldering or can be re-lit), lightning strikes, vehicle malfunctions, and chemical reactions within the newly placed waste." A fireball rather than a grass fire was the result of the lightning strike illustrated in the Fire Risk Testimony (see below):



- PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO 3:** Burning embers from a fire burning elsewhere rain down upon the landfill, igniting it. Fire experts tell area residents that this is **THE MOST LIKELY** scenario for a fire emergency: that a wildfire elsewhere lofts airborne embers into the area, starting fires there; **SCS REBUTTAL:** This would likely be a grass fire, one of the plausible scenarios. The likelihood of this is low, and the risk and consequences would be no worse than on any other grassed area in the County. Moreover, the likelihood of timely detection and response is far higher at Coffin Butte Landfill than with other rural and unobserved grassed (or otherwise vegetated) areas.

VNEQS Rebuttal: Please see the image below included from the SCS Engineering Report “**Understanding and Managing Landfill Fires: A Guide to Surface and Subsurface Hazards**” attached to this testimony that clearing shows a surface fire at a landfill that is clearly emitting embers. Combine this with a wind event and this is a high risk to neighboring homes and properties. Please refer back to the Fire Risk testimony which clearly demonstrates how many of the Coffin Butte and PRC landfill fires are occurring unobserved and unaddressed by Republic Services.



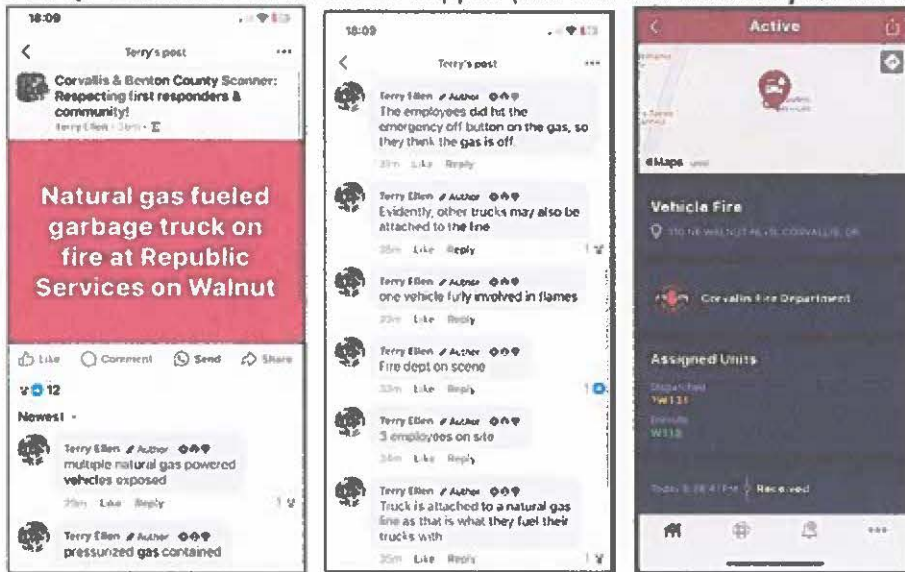
Figure 1 - Surface fire at a landfill.

- PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO 4:** Exploding lithium batteries (see testimony, Virginia Scott, & OPB article, “*Exploding lithium batteries are causing fires in Oregon’s landfills*”); **SCS REBUTTAL:** Batteries are excluded from working face disposal and have a designated separate collection area at the landfill. Batteries are not landfilled. If they did get through to the working face, and ignited, they would be manageable as a working face fire, which is already addressed.

VNEQS Rebuttal: Please refer back to the Fire Risk testimony which clearly demonstrates how many of the Coffin Butte and PRC landfill fires are occurring unobserved and unaddressed by Republic Services. Please see the SCS Engineering Report “**Understanding and Managing Landfill Fires: A Guide to Surface and Subsurface Hazards**” which states that “lithium batteries are hypersensitive to exploding in the presence of water”, like what we have in this wet environment which is another reason that a landfill in Benton County is not ideal.
- PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO 5:** Electrical short ignites fire in garbage truck in the compressed natural gas fueling area (see “Corvallis Fire Instagram account”); **SCS REBUTTAL:** This has never happened and the likelihood it could is

very low. If it did occur, such trucks are isolated on a hard surface, and physically separate from anything else that could ignite. And such a fire would be immediately identified and responded to by on-site staff, who would quickly extinguish the fire.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: The event **DID** happen (See Fire Risk testimony for full set of photos):



April 6, 2025 5:28 PM – This fire occurred on Walnut in Corvallis.



- **PLAUSIBLE SCENARIO 6: "Subsurface Reaction"** (the term of art used by the Applicant's fire consultant, Mr. James Walsh to describe spontaneous combustion deep in the landfill mass). In his 2015 expert testimony on the Bridgeton, Missouri fire (we will use the term "fire" rather than "SSR"), the Applicant's fire expert, Mr. Walsh, stated: "There is no known way to prevent the SSR from developing or to stop it." That SSR (or "fire") has now been burning in the Bridgeton landfill for 15 years. There are known risk factors, however, and one of them is having incinerator ash in the landfill; Coffin Butte has been accepting ash from the incinerator in Marion County for years. Another is accepting construction and demolition debris.

SCS REBUTTAL: THE SSR that was identified at Bridgeton Landfill is not a fire. A fire is shallow, aerobic, oxidation, and requires the presence of significant quantities of oxygen. An SSR is deep, anaerobic, lacking oxygen, and

assuredly not a fire. An SSR is extremely rare. Plus, temperatures are recorded monthly at all extraction wells at Coffin Butte Landfill, allowing for detection of elevated temperatures in the waste – a way to detect a possible subsurface fire or SSR. All such recorded temperatures to date at Coffin Butte are under the limits prescribed by the MSW landfill NSPS regulation. There is and has been no evidence of an SSR (or underground waste fire) at Coffin Butte and there is no material risk of one developing. Conditions at Bridgeton are entirely different than those at Coffin Butte. Ash alone will not create an SSR.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: Please see the attached SCS Engineering Report “Understanding and Managing Landfill Fires: A Guide to Surface and Subsurface Hazards” which plainly discusses the hazards of subsurface fires. Years of Marion County ash, construction debris, lithium batteries in a wet environment that can burn without oxygen,...

Given that the engineering arguments in support of the landfill expansion are refuted by reputable sources including the attached SCS Engineering Report “Understanding and Managing Landfill Fires: A Guide to Surface and Subsurface Hazards”, the Applicants engineering report as a whole is not a reliable source on which to base a decision to approve this CUP application.

POTENTIAL CODE CITATIONS – FIRE: 53.215 (1) FIRE SERIOUSLY INTERFERE WITH USES ON ADJACENT PROPERTY
There has been testimony (Erin Bradley & Joel Geier) regarding the threat fire on the landfill posed in 2024 to nearby properties

SCS REBUTTAL FOR THIS COMMENT AND ALL ALLEGED “POTENTIAL CODE VIOLATIONS” BELOW: This is a list of highly speculative, highly unlikely scenarios. My prior reports, including my June 6, 2025 submission, do not support the outcomes suggested by VNEQS. As an expert in this field, I stand by the conclusion that operations at Coffin Butte, including the proposed expansion, do not present a significant fire risk.

VNEQS' Rebuttal: Events are neither speculative nor unlikely if they have happened:

- Exhibit 20 declared that no fires have occurred in the surrounding area, yet 111 fires occurred in the nearby area.
- After the first flare fire, it was declared that flare fires do not occur, and then a second flare fire occurred.
- The June 20 report cited above stated that the truck fire on Walnut did not occur, and it did (see photos).
- The June 20 rebuttal states that fires are quickly detected and handled by staff on hand, yet most of the fires are detected and called in by citizens, and responded to by Adair Rural Fire and Rescue.
- The June 20 rebuttal state that lighting would produce a grass fire, but a lightning strike at a different MW facility resulted in a fireball.

Declaring an event impossible, does not prevent that event from happening. We may have been fortunate that so far none of these events have escaped the bounds of the landfill (with the exception of smoke), and we have shown that these events have ALL occurred in similar landfills and similar communities with tragic and dangerous results. It is not sufficient to say “it has not happened here, so it won’t”. Nor is “it has not happened here” sound grounds for CUP approval.

Please deny the CUP.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Virginia Scott
37016 Soap Creek Road
Corvallis, OR 97330

Attendees:

David Hackleman – Vice Chair (DH)

Bailey Payne

Julie Jackson

Paul Koster

Chuck Gilbert

Robert Kipper

Diane Cassidy

Peter Peterson

Charlene Carol (online)

Blue = Reference to Adair Rural Fire and Rescue

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9Nh31cOelc>

Transcript

testify at CP hearing and we had also requested a public information. We had a

11:36

public information request to dare rule[Adair Rural] fire because of statements made during the CP hearing that there were 20 plus

11:44

fires at the landfill and um which is not true. And so I just want to

11:52

clarify some things before we you know before I read out some stuff. So we asked the bear fire

11:59

um to provide information and in June we we we asked this information. It took

12:05

them a while to get this information to us all of us, I believe. Um, and we

12:10

asked for any fire responses from 2013 to 2025 that did not include PRC or

12:19

dispatch personnel for other calls. Um, the data was gathered from lunch calls, electronic reporting data to filter out

12:26

all the motor vehicle fires, toll fires, etc. None of the fires or other calls at

12:31

the PRC location are included. Eight of the 19 calls listed on the attached chart with confirmed fires required

12:37

suppression efforts. The 11 investigations will respond to as working fire type working fires ting up

12:42

resource until they prove to be false alarms typically caused by methane stacks and as everybody knows it as they

12:48

say methane stacks but it's the old candlestick flares. Um so

12:54

overall during testimony and everything there were statements that there was 20 plus fires. The fact is there are 19

13:00

calls reported. 11 of those 19 not being fires, but reports of fires in people

13:05

driving by and seen the open flame, the old candlestick flares. Um, and number

13:10

two, in fact, number two, one of the havos during the um there were two in 24, one due to a hollow, the other one

13:17

due to the open flame of the burn, which had been eliminated with the closed player. We no longer have those open

13:22

players and there were zero in the previous seven years going back to 2017.

13:27

So if you go ahead, you know, if you want to pass this around or look at it, this is basically what was provided by

13:33

their fire. Um, and then there were only three actual fires responded to by Coff

13:38

in the in a 13-year period by their own records. So the statement that there were 20 plus fires what is is is was

13:45

false on its face at the C peak and basically um I think you know we had

13:52

addressed the hos that we encounter um we feel that there's not a zero chance

13:59

but a very minimal risk that fires will be will will take place at the landfill

14:05

that will get out of control as we maintain a very small working face. We do not have a working face of the size

14:13

that was previously done for that previous fire in was it 99 or 93

14:19

whatever that was where basically the whole entire landfill was just a working phase. They didn't cover it. So, we have

14:25

daily pictures that we record that make sure that we're actually covering the working face with either soil or tarps

14:33

and we have those pictures are taken by our working staff every night before we close to ensure that all the trash is

14:40

covered. Um and we just we we just all the way down the line we just feel that

14:46

in at this time it is not is not what's the best way to say we are

14:52

not complying to add any kind of watch or fire suppression or fire monitoring

14:59

systems at basically at this time. So that's kind of where we where our position is

15:04

right now. We just don't feel that there's there's not enough data and according to

15:11

that air rule [Adair Rural] fire there's only been two in the last since 2017 last year. So um

15:18

we just don't feel that that is the need to have a support or any kind of

15:24

suppression or any kind of people in place. Q: DH What about during a red flag warning?

15:30

Um, we haven't the fires haven't taken place during red flag warning yet, right?

15:35

DH? Which I think is fortuitous, but uh, you know, that's it's kind of the one of the

15:40

out of the hundred that be a real problem. I I would I would argue that I'm more

15:45

worried about the surrounding vegetation and not the land, not a pile of dirt and pile of soil. I'm more worried about the

15:51

trees on the hills and and all the properties surrounding us. I I'm more worried about that as vegetation. DH?

You

15:57

know, I I I don't care what you're worried about. I'm just asking during a red flag warning, wouldn't it warrant

16:03

that it have more eyes on the on the on the landfill?

16:08

I worked at it is a uh ignition source. It's a known ignition source.

16:14

No, I have fires. I have wor I worked at a landfill that had red flag warnings probably two weeks

16:21

in a row. We never had anybody overnight to stay there with 70 mph winds, 100 mph

16:26

winds that never had a fire on that landfill caused by the landfill.

16:32

Well, there is lucky. Show me Show me where landfills fires

16:38

have caused extenduating fires outside. Not yet. There you go.

16:44

DH? All right. So I'm just saying I think I mean I it would be prudent during red

16:49

flag warning to especially at night uh to have uh the security of somebody

16:56

watching to see that a fire doesn't spread and you know this particular landfill is

17:01

just I agree it's next to that vegetation current the current situation is it's surrounded by vegetation and

17:08

I've been landfills that are a lot closer to vegetation than coffin. So, I mean, we we can agree to disagree,

17:14

but that's our position. We're not going to institute anything at this time.

17:19

DH? Okay. Quick question. Yes. Of the fires that were there excluding

17:25

the uh flares, were were they always at the base or were they at some other

17:30

location? They did not. The only one that they indicated was the landfill, the one in

17:36

2024 last year where there was a hot load that we felt was put out and someone recognized it and we were there within 10 minutes and knocked it out. Um

17:43

we based on even the Adair Fires during our meeting with um David in in March.

17:50

they they basically said they have a very working relationship with us. They have no problem, no issues with us.

They

17:56

didn't see any concern. Of course, that changed during the CP hearing where they completely reverse course and completely

18:04

but what I'm saying is I they did not provide information for any of that stuff. Most of your activity I know is

18:10

at the base so I don't see no potential there. Obviously, I understand this.

18:18

Currently, of all the call, there are eight actual fires that you've acquired a deer [Adair] to

18:24

respond during the last eight years. One, two, three, four, five since 2013.

18:31

Eight fires. Okay. So, that's the last 12 years. So, about one little under one fire a year.

18:38

Okay. Okay. So, then so that's what we're seeing. to fires that are occurring not

18:45

during the normal operating condition normal operations. I can't I can't speak to anything but I

18:51

we'd have to they did not provide any more information. DH? -What I'm trying to say is that the fire department wouldn't be coming unless

18:57

either you called either the public called them or they came because somebody called them.

19:03

Correct. Yeah. So these fires you may or may not know whether they occurred during operation but they did require the

19:10

services of the fire. Yes. Okay. And the Republic's position is

19:16

that in spite of the fact that there is a fire approximately once a year, maybe

19:21

once every year and a half, no action is going to be taken. Correct. At this time,

19:27

okay, we you reserve the right to revisit it as we move forward. So that's that's the position that

19:33

public. Okay. Okay. I have a question of when they say

19:39

investigation, did somebody have to come out and investigate? Say yeah, they say it's all they saw fire.

19:45

It was basically the open flame, the old open flame uh flares that we had. It was just like a candlestick an open flame.

19:52

We got rid of those. They're now enclosed flares. So there's no chance of that. So

19:58

does it clear the uh um uh the the compost?

20:04

No, it's stated with that not for the PRC. Okay. So, um I had a few notes myself on

20:13

this since I kind of brought up the question in the beginning. We actually brought up this

20:20

in October of 2024 to ask if somebody can.

20:25

And then in February there was an update and at that point the real [Adair Rural] fire department identified some

20:32

opportunities for improvement which included some means of looking uh to see

20:38

if there is a fire during nonoperating periods of the of the landfill, you

20:44

know. So it's like maybe they would come by or there be some observation of some kind.

20:52

Was this the letter from I received this last week and so I didn't have any basis. It's the one that Bailey sent me.

20:59

It says the date is September 20 October 10th. Is that the one you're referring to?

21:05

[Music] April fire safety, right? Oh, I'm Yeah, I'm talking about

21:11

one from last year.

21:16

Okay. Okay. So then so now and we had the

21:21

joint meeting which was a very important meeting I agree with public

21:27

view central audience yes and that's when at the same time there was a presentation a summary provided by

21:35

Mr. Davis on it and the summary said

21:41

I'm going to name for that summary which is in our minutes already

21:46

I believe that that the primary consent appears to be after hours deduction I think I have that did you make copies of

21:53

that or not okay I sent which one I sent the notes for by Mr.

22:00

79.

22:09

Do you have a copy of that? What you just said by Mr. D26?

22:15

Yeah. Not reported, Mr. Does everybody should have copy? Okay. So then

22:21

in line it just talked about some fires reported by citizens passing by and that

22:27

are only the needs of discovery of those fires and that

22:33

you talk further discussion focused on the fire season in which we're in right now and you were talking about this back

22:39

in March before the thief saying that that's really the ones most worried not

22:44

necessarily when it's raining. DHm. But when when the season is dropped

22:51

and then we we we burrow down and we we we learned that the fire department

22:57

provides a good fighting day or somehow that becomes available to be noted and

23:02

that might be a means to trigger some kind of okay and then after that there were action items. So one of the most

23:09

severity mentioned that they did provide some data and they did not necessarily provide

23:14

some data on current fire detection need as far as I can tell from

23:20

so you didn't get you got part of the information you got the report on what they had visited but you didn't get any

23:28

report on what options are available to you yeah we just asked for all calls in 2013

23:37

to the landfill. So I'd say that uh RF hasn't provided

23:43

uh any information on ways to detect. No, they have not provided anything.

23:50

Um and then you just commented on the discussion of after coverage. The answer

23:56

is that the public does not wish to do that. That does not Okay.

24:02

Now I can amend that. I can go back and say, "Hey, can we can we talk about red flag?" You might. It would be

24:07

I I can I can talk to them but let's see what they I have to pick this up but there anything else and I can always

24:13

discuss if I understand basically representative you're not the authority that makes all

24:20

the decisions. DH? Don't you question but I I I will I will respectfully ask

24:26

on reply days if say such time that we can consider that

24:32

as as a as a as a you know but at the same time okay then I think

24:38

the only fourth time I don't think that

24:43

yeah so there some other comments the access

24:49

code which we got there and there permission to cut any box or whatever. Oh yeah, we need a way to do it.

Yeah.

24:57

there was quite a comment about discussing discussing having them meet more often with the public to see how

25:04

things could go. Yeah, I don't know if any meetings have been planned. As far as I'm aware, no. Um, ever since

25:10

the CP hearings have been having, there's been no feat either way, I believe,

25:16

to my knowledge. Okay. DH? So I've gone through what they just reported and I think that is

25:22

germanine to this and uh I I don't want to speak for the entire committee

25:28

through the six people here but I do want to bring up that I think it would be to our best interest to see if we can

25:36

find a way to detect fires especially if no one is at the site uh if they erupt.

25:44

Uh they may or may not be in the landfill. Okay. But that is an area that is susceptible to fire and if you can

25:53

ask the landfills person so they can contribute to this method

25:59

that's great but I think we should also forward the request to the county

26:05

to help support it maybe at air fire department some process of taking it in

26:10

le of the fact that currently we do not believe the public is going to be doing anything further than what they

26:16

currently you would that sound fair to everybody here. Okay. So, I'm happy to pen something

26:23

like that and report it to Bailey and then

26:30

that's appropriate and acceptable to the committee.

26:35

Okay. So, two things are going to happen. One of them is that

26:41

Paul is going to see if the public is interested in helping out on medical

26:47

needs. And the other thing is that I'll note stating that at the current time we have no outside of operating uh uh

time

26:57

observation of that uh basically and that it has the potential of having an ignition source.

27:04

It's a low likelihood. It's maybe one fire a year. Uh I don't want any side effect.

27:11

I don't want any future. I want zero. Exactly. I also want to be a cause. I don't want

27:17

to be a source. And that's any discussion on that. I I'm not for obviously,

27:22

but one thing that might be important from the standpoint of uh the public is

27:28

if a fires does erupt in that area, it might be beneficial to know that it did not occur on the landing hill. I also

27:35

want to make the point that the staff that reviewed the county staff that reviewed our amendments and everything

27:42

else during the CP hearing approved us with our fire expert testimony that

27:48

there is very minimal chance of fires and they approved that. So I just want to make sure that

27:57

those fires. Yeah. There's never a 0% chance of anything.

28:02

DH? Yeah. So, so I'm just pointing out uh if a fire takes place and if it's on

28:09

the border of the landfill, you know, if if a fire starts on my property, it's on

28:15

the adjacent landfill and it spreads. That's not the responsibility of the

28:21

landfill. Okay? But if the fire started in the landfill and spread, then it would be okay. Somebody's going to have

28:28

that kind of conversation. You need to know the fire takes place. I'm trying to recognize Republic that it might be to

28:34

their benefit to avoid potential ideal that do not have anything.

28:42

No. That's perfectly fine.

28:49

Anything else on the on the fire? I think you've covered it. Well, I think

28:55

we have maybe two action items for that. There may be a bit of advice to find out in there if they want to provide some

29:01

information about means that fires. I guess you might want to know what's

29:07

the frequency of those flag days initiated individual red flag days. Definitely

29:14

and when they the variation guys yeah all day when is the wind threshold for red flag

29:21

it every place are different it's 35 miles an hour and I've

29:29

experienced 80 mph winds in that canyon so that's brutal

29:34

I mean who determine I think it's exploring [Music]

29:42

anything this last week. I don't know if that any five days either. Usually it's

29:48

humidity. Yeah, but I don't know if they call in like if they think that we're going to

29:53

have dry get warm when you drive down the humidity with the temperatures and part of the wind and yeah, you can

30:00

potentially have a bad issue as well. I think yeah, especially up here, not so much, you know, with locations.

30:06

All right, thank you very much. Anybody else have any more comments on fire at this point? Just for context, um, and

30:13

it's in the notes here, but, um, the, uh, fire said that there were typically

30:19

about 10 to 12 red flag days a year. 10 to 12. 10 to 12.

30:24

I mean, do we know we know how many we've had this year? I mean,

30:32

zero. It's been drier, I think. I don't know for summer up here, but to me, this seems drier than what most people have

30:38

said. So, Has there not been? No.

30:45

No, they have not. We might want to comment on that, too. And something leaked.

30:51

I think we're say professional audio.

30:57

That's been up there the whole time. I hope you can still hear us, Charlie. Okay, she can.

31:03

Good. Okay, great. Okay. So, I've got a little worship video which I'll be happy to do. I just

31:09

have to make sure I know what I'm doing. I think I do. But I'll take care of that

31:14

this evening. And so, you fall. Thank you very much.

31:22

We're blistering along here. It's 6:34. We're still ahead of schedule by far.

31:29

Uh, do we want a break now? You want to keep

31:34

it done early. [Music]

31:43

Odor Discussion Begins:

Okay. So, let's keep updates from the subcommittee, please.

31:48

And I think the orders of methane been titled by commit committee which we sold

31:56

person here on down here. Well, we met uh and discussed

32:03

things at the we actually went up to the top of uh top of you and you're in the

32:10

dome I have up there to chat and we discussed things and uh we talked mainly

32:16

about methane and and odors but not so much on the title five. We're going to

32:21

carry that out next. And then uh very ending the discussion

32:28

centered upon well how do we know where an odor is coming from? you know, is it

32:33
the landfill, is it PRC, or is it some other source? And currently, we have no
32:39
way of telling because if an odor is reported,
32:45
uh, it's reported by the public because there's no sensors and they don't know. All they know is
32:53
they don't. And then they describe it on the sheet. And by the way, I I did a
32:58
Google search before I came in here to find out if it made sense how I could report an odor. And I seems to me
like
33:05
Google tells me where to go when it's on the landfill page. It doesn't look difficult. There's
33:12
a form to fill out and you just fill it out. So with regards to orders, it
33:17
doesn't seem confusing or complic complicated. Seems like it's fairly straightforward.
33:24
Okay. So, uh, the subcommittee, which is Jennifer and I, decided that since we
33:30
have no way of knowing where an odor comes from, we could fix that if we had
33:36
detectors on the perimeter. Uh, not that many, maybe four to eight of them. And
33:45
if those detectors could detect the things which exhibit odors and then we could by looking at the
33:51
concentration each of these we could determine whether it's within the landfill or PRC region or not. Okay.
33:59
That's something that could happen. It may take a little bit more time to decide how much it might cost. And
they
34:06
don't necessarily need to be on the landfill uh property. It can be done externally. So, as someone who used to
34:15
test flares and other with what's called continuous emissions monitoring systems,
34:21
as someone test analyzers 30 to \$50,000, they have to be calibrated every day.
34:27
Um, you have to know how to calibrate. You have to be certified to understand the methodology behind it. This
is not
34:33
something that anybody within Republic can do. I mean, I can do it because I'm
34:39
still certified for another year. So, you would have to hire someone externally to to do that. Um, then you
34:46
have to have a trailer. These trailers that we have at other landfills that the
34:51
county pays for is usually a4 million to a half million dollars for each one. Okay. So, and that's the equipment
rental, the
34:59
trailer, and maintaining it for about a whole year. It's about a half a million dollar for each one. Just to kind of

35:05

give you kind of understanding. And then you have to understand where you're putting it. If you put it near any kind

35:11

of traffic or anything, you're going to get impacts in traffic, dust, and everything. So, they have to be out and

35:17

in areas that are not disturbed, not there's not going to be a lot of stuff to be kicked up. Just just as somebody

35:23

who's Yeah. It would cost about \$8 million a year basically. Yeah.

35:28

Yeah. Pretty close to panel. Assuming everything is uh

35:34

farmed out as you mentioned. Yeah. Basically, yeah. Well, that discussion can also be carried on with

35:40

learning state because they're actually certified for this stuff. So, we can see if they're willing to contribute such

35:47

attempts. It might be education. Yeah. So, um but I don't know. So I want to

35:54

also discuss and talk about this the complaint system and I I do agree that I

36:00

get and I've stated before I get emails from DQ week and a half later and I keep

36:06

pushing for the online I get those online I even get to office at 5:30 if

36:12

there's something waiting for me or I have time I send somebody else out within an hour once I get those and I

36:20

I'm required by DEQ to reply to that And I'm also required by BEQ to submit

36:27

the complaint that's on the coffin webc website and also provide a response that

36:34

I provide the complaint that if I smell anything. So that's that's the quickest

36:40

way. And I've I've responded to maybe a dozen over the last couple months. Um so

36:47

but that's it. Most of the stuff comes through. Okay. So the responses you do uh you

36:54

submit them to the EQ. Yes. You also send the response back to the

36:59

the person. Yes. I mean so I the So if Mary Smith uh this address

37:06

sends in if I pull out a complaint saying 5:30 I smell this. Okay. Well, I'll try to go out and and get to it as

37:13

soon as I can. Obviously there's some response delay. I'll go out. I'll get it. They provide their address. I go to

37:19

their address. I can screenshot their house without the address or any

37:24

personal information to protect their privacy. So, it shows a time stamp or if

37:30

there's if there's no street name or anything, then if there's a street name, I'll take a picture of the street, show

37:35

that I was there at that time. And then I will include that in my report back to them saying, I arrived at this time.
The
37:42
wind speeds were this out of this direction. It's like carrying anemometer with me. And then I say, you know, the
37:47
only thing I smell was fresh grass or whatever. And that's my report to them.
37:53
And that and then I send that same report to the EQ later that day or whenever I get clicked up.
37:58
Do you typically contact them? I do not contact the the c the person playing or the person planning. I don't
38:05
want to step on private property and cause any issues. So no, you you send them a response.
38:11
Yes. Yes. I do not make contact with. So you're saying that most of the most of the complaints come through
DQ not
38:17
the so your method of googling and searching seems straightforward may not be any
38:23
wrong. Oh yeah. alert complaint for copy
38:31
first came up with the previous complaints were that no one was responding but I I worked to change that
38:40
to a positive response regardless of whatever but your point was it could be that the
38:46
public is not aware of how yes
38:52
and our job is in part to help the public understand how to so I think we should do something about
38:58
that. I think also we should have investigate
39:04
the cost of actually doing this uh automated system to see if that would
39:10
feasible. Uh your information about the cost is great. Really appreciate it. And
39:16
I'm not first of all I'm not advocating that this is the requirement to be imposed upon the public. you know, it's
39:23
it's it's air quality, which is important to the county. So, how it gets
39:29
covered and where any funding and support comes from is up in the air, so
39:35
to speak. So, it's up to the county to make that decision. Yeah, it's up to the county to decide whether it needs to
be done and if it
39:41
does, how but I think uh Jennifer and I will continue on this process to see how
39:48
we can do that as well. the possibility of doing a few air samples and find out
39:55
what is being emitted. Okay, we know something's being emitted obviously stuff comes out of the landfills. No
40:01
question and from BRC uh we don't have any u we don't know that there's any

40:09

u evaluation of what comes out beyond

40:14

that. So it' be nice to know and most of the things are going to be uh decomposition

40:21

products, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, stuff like that.

40:27

And that's kind of a method. So it would be nice to know if you if

40:32

you reference the C documentation, there is an over report in the C documenting

40:37

what what everything all that is. So I don't obviously have that with me, but I'd be happy to read through it. I have

40:44

not yet. Okay. And it's somewhere in the five what 6,000 pages. That's okay. We can forward.

40:50

I I don't I'd have to look for Oh, it's on the county website. So, yeah, all that stuff is

40:56

I just need to know how to get to it on a phone call. Yeah, you can go to the county website and it'll it'll you can look at the um

41:02

there's a link that goes through all the days and all the testimony, everything that was submitted, all the documentation.

41:08

I've been to it. I just I can see in my head I just Well, if Dale, if you can assist me to

41:14

give me some kind of way to know where to go to get this, I'd really appreciate it

41:20

because both Jennifer and I would like to look at that. Yeah, it was submitted as evidence.

41:25

Yeah. So, we came up with the how we could do the analysis and that's by taking some

41:31

nurse sandals and doing them in her lab because they have the equipment

41:37

appropriate to do the analysis. And then a report could be written but it would be a sampling. It would not be

41:44

continuously monitored just be a spot sample maybe four times a year uh just

41:52

to give an assessment and that basically would tell us about we think is coming out of the land bill and it be done by

42:00

the wet season and dry season things like that. So that may happen it may

42:05

not. There was a comment to find out if there's any interest from the

42:12

students at the university to do this kind of analysis because it's right in their field. That's what they're

42:18

studying to become as environmental scientists. They they they would find

42:23

this into a convenient way to do some analysis and learn about the field.

42:29

But if that's the case, we may propose providing a stipend to a graduate student

42:34

that's doing research in the field anyhow to take the improvement

42:41

stated. If the public wishes to um

42:46

support this, then the data could be taken in the grounds of the PRC and the

42:53

uh the landfill. And if Republic does not wish to support this, it could simply if you think it might outside,

42:59

we safety reasons. We don't we're not allowed anyone. Not allow except for no

43:07

outside, but I I'm pretty sure I'd have to pass it. Okay. Legal sources and higherups, but I

43:13

can almost see the response says, "No, you're not unless unless it's a permit requirement.

43:19

We can't take samples on. people outside

43:24

public property which we see. Well, I appreciate your position of not

43:32

I think pointing out what can be done to say that one has to be on the land when

43:38

it takes not. Yeah, it's not not really that Oh, maybe I misunderstood you. I thought

43:43

you said go onto the land. If if the public wishes to be a partner in this

43:48

study, then it would be ideal to take the samples on the problem. Yeah. I I don't

43:54

That's what I said. If Yeah. I don't Your response is you do not believe

44:00

we should be a part of. No, unless it's a permanent requirement and we follow all our permits the way

44:05

we're supposed to. That's perfectly fine. Yeah. Okay. That's the update.

44:13

a recent uh city bill that was passed and inquiring about methane monitoring

44:21

um what have they said? Um well the methane monitoring the bill

44:26

I believe did pass I believe that's to be implemented I believe that it is the responsibility I believe of

44:33

Republican to do that. Are you talking about the the bill that requires all landfills in Met County only for

44:39

drone? Okay. So yeah, so that's being reviewed and obviously DQ has to write

44:44

the rules and regulations for that bill, but we also need to understand we're happy to try alternative technology for

44:51

we we sometimes we we try rovers on the ground. Um but EPA does not recognize

44:58

drone. So the question is is do we have to do double the monitoring because EPA
45:04
does not recognize drones. There's only one company that rec that does drone
45:09
aerial drones. What happens if they're not available to provide support for
45:15
employerly monitoring and then we fall out of compliance because we can't monitor there? That's that's some of
the
45:21
issues that we that has to be figured out at at the state level and at the DQ
45:26
level for that for for that to be recognized. I'm not even sure when the uh I think the the legislation was
45:34
passed and I'm not sure when the date is implementation. I think it's like 46 or 47.
45:40
I think it's 27. Yeah. When I read it, it said that it authorizes drones. Yeah. And satellites
45:47
to do measurements. Okay. So now whether or not that matters from the standpoint of EPA, I'm not sure
45:54
that this is an EPA regulation. I believe it's state regulation. Correct. But so it's fine for us to find out that
46:01
during that process one should plan to conform to the regulation by 2027.
46:08
Right. I agree. But we need to understand from our perspective that the
46:15
EPA we would have to do our surface emissions monitoring twice every
46:20
quarter. That becomes now extremely expensive. And I said if I stated it
46:26
first off when we do a SIMS walkway like when we do our quarterly that SAMS probe has to be within 2 in of
the ground
46:32
surface as a guy walks in this grid you cannot have a drone that close to the
46:37
ground without damaging infrastructure. So what does that look like from the
46:42
requirement perspective? Does the drone have to fly 10 ft above the surface?
46:49
Well that's what I'm saying. So there's a lot to figure out. We have to understand that from our perspective.
Well, the drone in this case would
46:54
actually be a a be but that's okay. No, I'm not talking about
47:01
they said a drone. That's what they want. So, um
47:07
but I don't really want to discuss these details. It's in the legislation and out. And as
47:15
all legislation, legislation doesn't necessarily
47:20
correspond to it may or may not be feasible.

47:26

So you have to decide how you would comply with legislation when it become that's why they give you a year or two

47:31

to be ready to do it. Yeah. I think he still has to write all the requirements and limits and all that stuff for

47:38
January 27 is when it's supposed to be operation. January

47:44

about a year and some months 15 months. Okay. Well, it's worth it to have to

47:50

think about how long it might and I believe it is doing something about satellite as well. Satellites don't have

47:57
to be something very often. Okay. But there Well, there's more to it. We can talk about that.

48:02

Yeah. That's plenty. So that's methane only. You see the stuff that Jennifer and I

48:10

were discussing was methane is one element of the emissions, but there's several others and you don't smell

48:16

methane. So the odors are coming from something else. That odor detection

48:24

is an art to sell in a science. Okay, I think we're done with

48:30

the report on what's going on. The next steps that Jennifer and I are to do is to figure out, like I said, we're not a

48:37

graduate student. We've already got one or two lined up that might want to do this project. And then also, we need to

48:44

study the title 5. And we need to assess the the cost and how one might go about

48:52

monitoring the motors automatically rather than manually. To your point, um the title five is in

49:00

review for um through local. So you know the current title five is very old and DQ

49:10

came back to us and asked us to be doing some calculations and we have to restart this whole process over again. So

49:16

we do okay. Yeah. So that's going on right now. They they missed something and we had to redo

49:21

it. Um so basically they're we're restarting have new calculations and everything. So I have no idea when that

49:28

new title 5 comes out. So, I just want to make sure you're aware that if you're going to review a title five, if you're

49:34

going to review the old one, that's not going to hold up to where we are. Sure. But it might be good for us to

49:41

review the old one just so we can learn how to review it. Good. Yeah.

49:46

Yeah. It's going to quite change probably 50% just because of language and how old it is. So, I just want to

49:52

make you aware. Yeah. Let's thank. Okay. Groundwater initiate.

49:58

Yeah. So Charlie and I are here and Dave was able to make it today. Um we had a

50:04

meeting with Seth Seth Saddowski of the board of DEQ and uh Dave had written up

50:12

a report. I think you sent sort of the details that last time about just sort of the overall

50:19

monitoring of the groundwater, the age of the wells, quality of the wells and

50:24

so we reviewed that uh set and previously

50:31

reported and

50:36

not that he said he would do anything in particular, but he at least had our inputs and then he brought up during

50:42

that time that the he was currently under review of a revised will monitoring uh program from the public

50:49

that we hadn't heard about and so we we were requesting a copy of that from the DAC wonder if that's part of the CP

50:57

revised I'm not sure we we're not the only well

51:02

stuff that we're proposing is for the expansion so I I'd like I'm very

51:08

interested to know about some revision well I'm through. Yeah, he said he's in the process of

51:14

reviewing it already. So, I don't know what we don't know what it is. We're requesting a copy so we can

51:20

actually review it as well. Wonder if it's the uh annual monitoring that we submit.

51:26

Sounds like Oh, okay. Well, we don't have it. So, Bailey was

51:31

going to make the request. I'm wondering if that's the annual groundwater monitoring plan and or

51:37

everything we do. Yeah, maybe the terminology was revised, but maybe it's annual. It might be the annual because we just

51:43

submitted that several months ago. I think we got a copy of that as well, I think. Or that that comprehensive

51:48

report, right? So, that's probably what he's It's like a thousand pages. So, I'll let you talk with that and see what

51:54

Yeah, I've put in a request. Um I think I think tomorrow's going to be two

52:00

weeks, so I'm going to send them another nudge. Um but it's on their radar.

52:08

And so he didn't provide any information. He just said he's reviewing a report. He just said he's reviewing a revised

52:14

monitoring. Okay. Okay.

52:19

And that wasn't news to all of us.

52:25

Um Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead. I have something to add. That's one. And so I

52:30

believe we presented the uh they report that they helped to generate last time

52:37

all the details and budget but that's about the extension of our update

52:42

at this point. We're waiting to see if there's a revised thing and also if there any changes I guess if you have

52:49

new monitoring program are you changing anything based on any provided that

52:54

yeah I think I think yeah it's not revised. I mean, every year we go through it. So, it could be a revision as

53:00

Yeah. So, that that's interesting. I I'd like to know if that's maybe just nomenclature. Yeah. I think so. Um, as

53:09

far as the groundwater goes, um, I did through the CP hearing, we brought in

53:14

more people to help understand all the questions and concerns about groundwater during the CP hearing. And, um, I did

53:21

ask one of the groundwater experts if he wanted to speak to this group. He's not registered in Oregon, but he was part of

53:28

the support team. He's the senior vice president of GLA and he I have to dig

53:34

into some stuff, but he's willing to talk, but I need to I need to confer internally, but we may have. But if

53:41

you're curious of what is going on, he's basically going to speak to the same information that he provided at the C

53:48

hearing about all the groundwater wells, all the concerns, all the data. That's all part of our CP submitt package. So

53:56

I think Dave's main point was just to take an overall look. Here you have these wells. Here are the age of these

54:01

wells. Here's the process to dip and get water samples out of so maybe some of those aren't maybe they

54:08

need to be validated that the soil still functioning as desired. And I believe all maybe some new wells closer to UB

54:15

Wilson reserve or a different method of and he he provided all that information

54:22

in the cup hearing documents that he that he has him and his team

54:27

his team and he wrote just so so that's another thing so far as you know David's point like you can go on to and you can

54:34

download the packet online and he does there's bit quite a bit about all the groundwater wells he reviewed all the

54:40

data them all like multiple um groundwater reports annual groundwater reports ego comprehensive.

54:47

Yeah. So he would speak to that same thing but I just want to let this know that I I haven't forgotten and trying to resolve

54:54

that issue. I would imagine Dave would have heard that testimony or maybe gone through it.

55:00

I I and they wrote his this report afterwards. I I I can't keep the

55:05

timeline because I I was at CU and Can we Can we just get a copy of that

55:12

report? Uh the the whatever was presented to CUP from your um outside

55:18

hydro geologist that it's it's on the uh it's on the county website under all the CUP documents.

55:26

I'll send out a a copy to everyone. That'd be great. Thank you.

55:34

Okay. What else? And that's it for Okay. Any more comments on groundwater?

55:43

Thank you very much. Okay. Community.

55:48

Do we want to talk about PAS or Y the USPASS or are you going to come to that PAS?

55:54

That's up top. Do we talk about the PASS presentation raifications? Was that part of community

56:01

stuff or not? Is that is that I don't see that on the agenda. Yeah, it's overlooking.

56:07

Oh, no. Well, I'm sorry. I didn't even talk about it's the stuff that he it was on your

56:13

stuff that you emailed, I believe. You know, Jennifer Fields did a

56:19

presentation on PAS last time. Maybe that's what you're looking at. Yeah, I'm sorry. Yeah, that's why I'm

56:24

looking at it. I thought I'd look at Not a problem. Did you have a chance to see that? We

56:30

could you know I the presentation when it was converted to PDF everything kind of overlay on there so it was really hard

56:37

to Well, I could ask her to send you the direct something. Yeah, I I honestly

56:42

with everything else going on I completely forgot but when I looked at it it was everything somehow got crunched and it was over.

56:48

If uh if you have time you might um watch the recording of her.

56:54

Um okay. There's just one thing that I I I want to clarify and

57:00

it's a little stuck in my crawl thing and I apologize but this this statement

57:05

that constantly comes up is landfill are long-term sources. We are
57:12
that's a technical thing but the sources we're passive taker the peass comes from
57:20
the stuff you wear the stuff you eat everything else. Yeah. We're a a a
57:26
focused source, but we're not a producer. I just want to make sure there's understanding, okay? Because
57:32
people keep saying we're a source and we're a producer. And it it frustrates
57:37
me because everything that we bury from your trash has to be fast in it, the
57:43
backpack, this everything. And so it's unfortunate that it gets concentrated at
57:50
the landfill, but people are combined source and producer and they they kind
57:56
of intermix those. And I just want to make sure and this this committee is very intelligent and I just want to
make
58:01
sure that everybody understands. Yeah. That that this distinction that's all
58:08
sure the Yeah. the polyfloride and aromatic substances
58:15
for they don't they don't they're not being synthesized. Yeah, they're already exist.
58:21
Yeah. Yeah, that's true. Just another good analogy. You're not alone there because everybody's washing
58:27
machine and our houses are doing the same thing with all the sports gear and rain. Yes. So, so we try to
distribute a
58:34
little away from you know. So, so the um
58:39
Okay, thank you. So, let's go back to the committee and
58:45
then we can talk more about that later if you want to. Okay. So, go ahead, please. Okay. So I I then analyzed the
um joint
58:55
24 community concerns and the report and um I wish that there was a pie chart
59:02
giving you the source of the of the comment. Um, so I had to do that myself
59:09
and um, here it's itemized by how many came from what source and all right that
59:18
50% of them are coming from GPQ. So people are
59:25
commenting to DBQ and then GBQ is sending those to the public.
59:31
Um, so that's pretty interesting that people are choosing, most people are
59:36
choosing to go to EQ and and a lot of times when they make a comment, it just says Landfill Spain

59:44

lives four miles southeast of L. That's it, right? It's not specific. And I I really push specificity.

59:52

Yeah. to use the landfill the website itself can do my job and go and investigate

59:59

four four and a half four and a half miles southeast landfill that's that's a huge and DDQ does not send those to you the

1:00:06

same no but last week they sent them to me almost the same day which was quite shocking when I was like I looked at

1:00:12

September 5th I'm like this is September 6th but but still it's a day later

1:00:17

they're and I have to backtrack what was the wind direction when I look at I looked at National Weather Service sweat

1:00:23

uh wind. I look at our local wind and you know wind direction and so I make all the scientific determinations but

1:00:30

the day late I can't can't do anything right you know right and so um if you look at the

1:00:35

comments that were sent to DESAC chair DAC meetings

1:00:41

emails and that doesn't say who those were emailed to in the report just I

1:00:46

assume they're to the count and calls and that doesn't say who the calls are to that's 44 4%

1:00:55

of the comments of women. Um, Bailey, you had replied to my June

1:01:01

10th subcommittee meeting that 80 to 90% come to the county, but that's not how

1:01:09

the report comes out. I hadn't looked at it that way. That's

1:01:14

good to know. these individuals.

1:01:20

Um, the Republic had 11 out of 233, which was 12% of that whole

1:01:28

report were sent directly to the public according to the report and then it had

1:01:36

a name like Republic and then it had a person's name. I thought that was the

1:01:43

person they reported to, but evidently that was the person who made the call

1:01:50

on our way to which I don't know that we should be putting people's names in the um so that was confusing. I thought it

1:01:58

was going to all these different people. Is that the why you said Republic Service received 11 concerns via

1:02:03

telephone? So I'm kind of confus I'm like are they calling and leaving a message? cuz I I

1:02:10

don't get messages uh via phone. I mean, I get I've got some call recently asking
1:02:16
about the blasting and that's it. But I don't know. I'm just curious. Okay.
1:02:21
But so there's just it's very vague. Okay. Very good. Okay. Um and then there were two letters
1:02:27
in the GT and one letter assumed to desc.
1:02:41
So you know like you were saying you preferred the um coffee website for
1:02:49
people to post comments. And so when Bob and I met with Julie,
1:02:55
we we talked about um it's really pretty easy to find if you know to go to the
1:03:01
coffin be website and not the republic website and then you know at the top
1:03:06
there's operations and then you can find the odor complaint.
1:03:13
We would like to change it to just a a concern, a general concern which could
1:03:19
include a and then um Julie says that that is checked every
1:03:26
day. Yeah. As soon as Well, so as soon as someone clicks on that link, there's
1:03:32
information. I don't know. Have you ever clicked on a link and seen what's there? It's like a name, an address, a
time,
1:03:38
everything else. As soon as you hit submit, it comes to a coffee mute website or the
1:03:44
email address which I have and there's many of us that have that that it'll pop
1:03:49
up in our mailbox and so I'll see that and I'll see that right away. So, um
1:03:55
there there's no delay. Now, if you if you put a report in at 4:00 in the
1:04:00
afternoon saying 4 4 this morning, I smell something at 4:00 p.m. I I really can't do
1:04:06
anything to go out and investigate. So, so it's it sounds like what we want
1:04:12
to do is um provide some information to the community that the best and DEQ that
1:04:20
the best way to voice a concern is on the coping bill
1:04:26
and um when DEQ forwards you
1:04:31
does it forward directly. Yeah, they go directly to me. And then are they forwarded by the same
1:04:36
person all the time? Correct. Who was that person? Laura Mcuart. Laura.
1:04:43
MC. W H O R T E I. I believe.

1:04:48

I might. Yeah. Um um and so my when I reply to

1:04:56

her on my cover letter, it said so when I respond to them, the EQ will then send

1:05:05

that response I believe to the person. Someone will call and say obviously they

1:05:11

when you backed up sorry when you go from your website they ask for your name, the address and everything.

Okay.

1:05:17

But when they call, they may give their address, their name, and all this, but

1:05:23

all I get is the day, the time, and a basic quote of what they stated on

1:05:30

the recording cuz it's a recording that they and so someone checks the recording and transcribe that information.

So, it

1:05:36

may have their name, their address, but I don't see that or their email address. However, I believe DEQ when I send them

1:05:44

back my response from the emails that they get, they give me on my cover

1:05:50

letter, I have it highlighted in underlined hyperl,

1:05:55

the copy link. Every person that has called DEQ to file complaint receives

1:06:02

that letter back my response with that link. So, they know it's there. But and

1:06:09

and those are the people that generally complain. It's not it doesn't go for everybody globally

1:06:16

per se. So the people who complain and get that response get gets my response back. DQ need that link on that on that

1:06:23

page. So So I think it's going to take some education to DEQ to to encourage people to

1:06:32

go to the coffee website. They can file it with EQ if they want, but then they should also do it with cough and view.

1:06:40

Yeah. And sometimes they do both, which really confuses me because it's a timely issue. And they also have

1:06:45

double cancer complaint. Yeah. Double count complaint. So there's there's se there's there's there's

1:06:51

several individuals that I get I get a cop and mute complaint. Yeah.

1:06:56

And then Laura will send me a Hey, this is the same person that complaint that said they went send in something cop and

1:07:02

they haven't heard anything back. I just haven't had a chance to reply. It's been a couple days, but they'll they'll they'll file complaint on the

1:07:09

copy, then they'll call me and follow. [Music]

1:07:14

Well, I don't know what people do about that. They're not just saying

1:07:21

personality. I mean, the important thing is to give it to you. Yes. Yes.

1:07:27

And so that that's our result. Yeah. Do you want me to tell you what I the

1:07:33

email I sent and that I've requested after all of the meeting and conversation? I need to be chatting.

1:07:39

That was Julie Jackson. Julie Jackson. She's on our second. So after our

1:07:46

meeting, um I sent an email to the folks who handle that website saying one, we'd

1:07:52

like a button on the homepage that says report a consent. Copy.

1:07:58

Okay. the home headage. Then we talked but I thought about it a

1:08:03

little more. So there could be a button when when you click on that there could be a button that says report an order an

1:08:09

odor concern or an other concern so that we have two separate forms because the odor one's fairly specific about what

1:08:16

kind of odor it was and where you know we all looked at that. Yeah. So

1:08:22

there could be a second button that's for other concerns and that way we could keep those separate. But um what if we

1:08:29

had on that odor concern, what if we just had a box that says having reported ACEQ?

1:08:36

That'd be a good So maybe we could get a little more gather a little more information that way. And then I asked them to to give me

1:08:42

some information about metrics and how we could track that by website. Oops. I

1:08:47

haven't heard back from them yet. And in all transparency, I only sent it on my

1:08:53

phone. So we'll see. But I was I will update that information too.

1:08:59

This sounds really good. Uh I would like to ask the committee if

1:09:05

uh you think we should include some uh u links on other pages

1:09:14

people and maybe the county. You know, we could

1:09:20

even conceivably have the uh

1:09:26

DQ page actually have this compirected

1:09:35

just to have that eliminated. Thanks.

1:09:41

If I can make a suggestion because you know Paul and I get our feelings hurt really easily. So

1:09:49

we, you know, everything is a is sort of couched, you know, fairly negative. Report a concern, report a complaint,

1:09:56

report this. And I think maybe we could even say for more information to find out more information about coffee link

1:10:03

our website because there's a ton of more information on that website besides just being able to report a complaint

1:10:10

and I think it's a real source of information for folks, but they haven't been directed to it very much. So I'm on

1:10:15

your website right now. I'm trying to find where I had to report anything. Did you go to coffin but landfill?

1:10:21

I know that's right. Click on operations. Right now if you click on operations you'll find

1:10:27

it. But what we so what we suggested as a result of our meeting was that there be a button on homepage. So you didn't

1:10:34

have to know to go to so I'll see what

1:10:40

Yeah. So So then we have um 44% of the ones

1:10:47

that are coming to the DAC chair, the DAC meetings,

1:10:53

emails, calls. Um I don't I don't really understand these ones that went to DAC

1:10:59

chair. I guess that was an email or a call. And

1:11:06

this was for 204, wasn't it? 204. Yeah, there's a lot of back.

1:11:14

So yeah, I think if they go to the VISAC chair or committee member, it's kind of

1:11:21

our obligation to connect it to the top view. Collect data and then just submit it for

1:11:29

the person or tell them to do that. I don't think we should

1:11:35

uh be the source of the information so much as get the information directly to

1:11:41

the you know to to Paul to take action. I think it's more cur

1:11:49

than to send to ESAC or am I am I mistaken? But for these complaints, wouldn't it be more prudent to direct

1:11:57

the county rather than the ESAC chair? Um, well, if they weren't pres

1:12:06

he sends me questions that come from the county or from concerned citizens and I'll respond when

1:12:12

I have the opportunity with what I can. So, he usually sends them out. He he filters a lot out. I I don't know what,
1:12:19
but I I get questions from him, but hey, I got an email from a concerned citizen about this and I will collect the data
1:12:26
and I'll reply to him. So that's what I'm saying is when you know cuz you said you you didn't know about the DSAC chair
1:12:33
received 58 concerns instead of inundating the DSAC chair wouldn't it be
1:12:39
to go through the county as a matter of record since there's there's quicker communication I don't know what's
1:12:45
okay well you know that okay so if you go to any
1:12:51
event and then eventually somebody finds out like you're a medical doctor you find
1:12:57
about everybody's pains, right? Okay. So, the same thing is here. Okay. They find out that we had on this
1:13:03
committee and they say, "Ah, it's stinks." Okay. Okay. But we can't really even know if they're talking about the
1:13:09
landfill, you know, because they don't know, right? Okay. And it'd be better if we redirect
1:13:16
everybody to there's a form there and you can do it and I don't necessarily
1:13:21
say, "Well, I'm going to send a debate to them. Tell them to do the same thing." Oh, I see. I see. I see your
parents
1:13:28
people will sometimes wherever they feel they can get some kind of action they can and if they but at the same
time I
1:13:35
was going to mention it might be to our benefit to be aware of
1:13:41
what's been done since the last meeting at each meeting you know so if you get a
1:13:46
bunch of commentary it be nice if we had a summary or maybe
1:13:52
we're linked on the somehow on the event so we know what's going on
1:13:58
as I know that but I'm thinking that keeps us all aware. Yeah. Well, that's those are the metrics we're
1:14:04
going to try to gather from the website because as Paul sends back a reply, we should be able to do
1:14:10
that. Yeah. In fact, we think if you can find a good software design, we should
1:14:16
respond. uh they could actually add up all this stuff and get a summary for us
1:14:22
using very simple software um that give us an assessment
1:14:28
and you said that you've had so many this month I like September I've had two this month

1:14:35

I had maybe five less than five minutes

1:14:40

your memory I mean we track them we have we log and track them I mean we submitted reports

1:14:46

annual reports and everything. So, yeah, they're trackable. We track all the complaints, you know. So,

1:14:55

all of the uh complaints that the county receives are included in the meeting packet that you have. I think there were

1:15:02

maybe two the last one. So, that's since our July

1:15:08

meeting. You're talking about you talked about what's going on in the committee and you

1:15:14

have things to do. Um and uh are you taking this action then

1:15:20

forward or respond? Yeah. So so Julie's working on the website,

1:15:26

right? Um we will contact um

1:15:31

Laura at DQ and see if we can um

1:15:36

get them to start um sending people to the Boston website.

1:15:42

And then can you can somebody add that to the DAC website and website?

1:15:51

To go to Republic? Yeah, it is on there and I'll I'll take another look at it

1:15:56

and see where it's located. And just also I was going to add uh whenever I

1:16:01

get a a call or an email um I always direct them to the public site and

1:16:07

recommend that they fill it out there as well.

1:16:13

off. Yeah. Um and

1:16:18

um yeah, so that they can receive the complaint sooner than in the batches

1:16:24

that I send them over. So um that it goes to Julie's point earlier that

1:16:29

there's probably some double counting cuz every time I get a complaint, I say you should also tell Republic. So it

1:16:36

could be that there are duplications. I think Bailey, this is just this is

1:16:43

Charlie talking here. Uh, but I think that Bailey's concern about like saying

1:16:49

Republic rather than coffin but landfill is going to not have people go to the website and I think that when there's a

1:16:58

concern because I went to Republic Services website, it does not take you to coffin but landfill
1:17:04
that site is hidden. So unless you know there is a coffin but landfill I just
1:17:10
went to the republic services site and you kind of have to specifically let
1:17:15
people know that they can use the coffin but landfill.com. That's a very good site and there's some
1:17:24
minor spelling stuff. I'm just going to say it's not confin
1:17:29
um on the odor uh concern and I agree with Julie that you know needs to be a
1:17:34
little bit more easy for people to find it but that's it's a really nice site
1:17:40
compared to the republic services site and it's harder to get from the republic
1:17:46
services site to specifically coffin but landfill that's all
1:17:52
we have a link on the republic public for website to the public view somehow
1:17:58
already but I will double check that absolutely this a great conversation I was going to
1:18:04
mention also that there are people believe it or not that don't know that the landfill is on top they just know
1:18:11
it's a landfill so we need to ensure that if somebody wants
1:18:17
to talk about odors they they kind of get directly in the
1:18:22
right direction not really sure how to that. But that's one of the potential problems.
1:18:28
Well, I think social media is another great place to post it. Yeah, I think maybe
1:18:33
next door next door and there's several of those for the area. Yeah,
1:18:38
it' be beneficial. We need to have what's posted there appropriate. So, you guys should put
1:18:45
together what you want to post. Yeah. and then have it done.
1:18:51
And it has to be ready. Yes, exactly.
1:18:56
Well, they can they can go at.com, right?
1:19:01
[Music] Thank you. I think the work of your committee is very essential to our our
1:19:09
appreciate. Anything more on this commentary? when
1:19:17
he's coming back. We just sort of had the day where I sort of came to some,
1:19:22
you know, that uh having a pilot trail was key. Uh because I think we can just
1:19:29

build confidence that, you know, we're seeing everything. I I think some people

1:19:34

report to DQ because they they might think that it's not uh going to be documenting. So, um, you know, and then

1:19:42

have initially maybe just have the court come back to DESAC at our meetings and here's what we captured and you know,

1:19:49

maybe that's how the feedback gets back to the community. Yeah, it should be nice to have a report

1:19:56

of what's coming support.

1:20:09

We don't rely on memory alone. Sorry, I didn't have something of heart attacks

1:20:15

because memories can very Thank you. Um,

1:20:20

where we at? We went through the committee. Okay. At this time, did you want to have

1:20:28

any further discussion on defense? No, it was just that I I had printed out

1:20:34

the stuff on just to go over all the stuff and it happened to be a different document that So, yeah, I just

1:20:42

this was a good time for me to bring it. There's another concern that they

1:20:49

anybody people throw away medical stuff that's

1:20:54

not pex but that of course makes it through and gets into the environment as well.

1:21:02

So all waste is and has to be auto clipping it is auto clipped. Yes, we there are

1:21:09

special way. No, but I mean somebody residential traps on a garbage can it's not

1:21:17

right but that's why we got liners so they cannot make it outside into ground water.

1:21:23

Yeah. So yeah and to be honest the what comes out of the water treatment plant in Corvallis is

1:21:30

the major source of those materials and that's too often city

1:21:38

is that medical waste is coming through the water system uh well

1:21:45

and medicines I would say it's not medical waste because that's a whole specific category but

1:21:51

medicines prescription medicines There's there's a there's a class of called

1:21:56

pharmaceutical and personal care products, right? That get point. Those are your plastic scrub beads that make

1:22:05

that fish mistake for cliche and they and they get they die and then but they they develop macro mouths big enough to

1:22:12

see like this stuff these personal kit like your shampoos all as low that stuff

1:22:17

comes from just from shower everything else and those those are the biggest that's a big concern because those can't

1:22:23

be broken down and they can't be filtered out by electricity. So there's there's dual in place for the water

1:22:31

system. Exactly. Thanks. Okay. So I will move on to the request or agenda items and staff

1:22:39

requests prevents me. Anybody know agenda items presents me. Just an update on the status of whatever

1:22:46

this uh monitoring plan is that's revised or whatever. Whoever here is.

1:22:52

So an update on this. Are we going to recedively receive

1:22:58

a monitoring plan so groundwater?

1:23:06

Is that a common practice if you do make an annual revision that des

1:23:13

should have I should be getting all given all the reports or kind of should get be getting all the reports. I'm

1:23:19

sorry. Um, but they should be getting all the reports as we provide them to

1:23:25

the EQ and upload them to YDO monthly reports, quarterly reports, semianual reports, and annual reports. They

1:23:32

the annual report. We talk about that. Yeah. Yeah. the annual for is the is the committee given anything

1:23:39

um prior to it becoming final when you suggest something and it goes a DQ and

1:23:46

you guys go back and forth and say okay now we're going to do this we only get that no once we finalize it and it's stamped

1:23:52

or if if it's a professional geologist that is writing the report and I review it internally and we prove it it's

1:23:58

stamped and it's submitted to DEEQ because DEEQ may have comments on they might kick it back to to provide

1:24:06

incorrect information is just not so once they finalize it if the copy goes once I then it's technically finalized

1:24:15

so I send I should be sending it to Bailey all the reports so he can provide

1:24:20

the reports and summary of however you know the request from DAT if that's

1:24:27

other other agenda items you add I think we just leave it open if somebody wants

1:24:33

figure out the decision, but do you have something? Well, um the board commissioners asked

1:24:41

um that the annual report um I think typically those come earlier like in May

1:24:47

or so. I didn't know about and I apologize that but as it turns out I think the commissioners aren't really in

1:24:54

a space that they want to focus on that they want to get through the landfill decision before so uh the report to the
1:25:03
board is going to be in early January. Yeah should be January once all the C
1:25:09
stuff is done. So the 2024 annual report will be presented to BOC
1:25:15
in January and I will also probably present it in January. I'm not sure we
1:25:21
have to November possibility. That's why I'm wondering about agenda items because that could be
1:25:29
Can I get back to you on that? I'm not sure where we are with that. I have to check but
1:25:37
there's a lot on your table right now. Yeah. And I don't want to promise somebody
1:25:44
process is that you present it to descend
1:25:49
any feedback and then from and uh you can accept dex
1:25:55
feedback or not and from there it goes to the board and that's when the the presentation piece
1:26:02
of it is. I can't can you give me a little bit I'll talk about internally we'll we'll I'll give you an answer by the end
this
1:26:08
week. Okay. Yeah, it was supposed to be May. I
1:26:13
didn't realize it cuz you mentioned it right in the middle of like what? So, I apologize. I I wasn't aware of it.
1:26:23
Anything else? [Music]
1:26:29
Yeah, I think each committee is going to give an update at the next meeting.
1:26:36
So that's that's going to be expected that I believe. Um okay. So now I have
1:26:42
one more thing and that's next meeting and so next meeting is what day? November
1:26:50
10. I don't know.
1:26:56
So any November on a Wednesday
1:27:03
November 12th, right? That's one thing. Okay. Lewis, that's the last meeting
1:27:10
that we currently have planned for this year. Okay. Because we're doing two
1:27:16
months. Uh and a number of the people on this moves into what I was
1:27:29
Rachel mentioned that our meetings haven't been showing up on the Vent County calendar. Does that mean
Saul?
1:27:35
Uh, yes. Okay. Okay, great. Thank you. This one was posted there last minute. I

1:27:42
think it made it on there yesterday. And then
1:27:48
and we heard about the 2024 annual report plans this time. So that's something that Rachel was also
1:27:54
interested in. And uh the other point is that many of
1:28:00
the committee members terms expire at the end of this year. Nine out of 11.
1:28:08
Okay. So well each of you decide whether you want to continue on
1:28:14
the committee and let us know so we can let the commission otherwise fill.
1:28:22
And there were two people I think Charlie um because of the slots that you were
1:28:29
filled. Yeah, it's 26. So it's 25 for everyone else. Yeah.
1:28:36
Then there's 1, two, three, four, five, six,
1:28:42
seven, eight, nine that are terms end at the end of each year.
1:28:48
Is that the same per day website also? Yeah, because I know Steve started at the same
1:28:53
time as Charles that he's because of the slot that he was assigned
1:29:00
so I don't tell you
1:29:06
no fact to probably myself and
1:29:11
your attention to be willing to serve actually I think it I think it would be
1:29:19
to randomly
1:29:25
expires too. Yeah, it's
1:29:33
a little
1:29:38
I think it should be sent to the chairman of the committee that seemed favor. Do you want to hear?
1:29:45
Um I am also of course interested. Um, yeah, cuz
1:29:51
need to do some recruiting most likely. The chair copy,
1:29:56
I think. So, yeah. Yeah. And we won't be worried about whether
1:30:03
you're serving the game that you have unless I have a fire or something happens. Yeah. I'm
1:30:09
I'm not going anywhere. Sorry. First. Okay. Anything else? Anybody wants to be
1:30:19
remove that. This is unexpotion [Music]

1:30:39

carries. Thank you very much.