

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

Received From: Shelley Sn

Date: 10/22/2025

Email: sushelley@aol.com

Phone: 541-619-8412

Address: 6065 SW Grand Oaks Dr.

City, State, Zip: Corvallis OR 97333

FOR BOC OFFICE STAFF USE ONLY

BOC ID: BOC 2

IDENTIFIER: T0637

Verbal Testimony – Benton County Commissioners appeal hearing for Republic Services,
10/22/2025 by Dr. Shelley Su

I read with interest the rebuttal – slash – appeal of the Benton County Planning Commission's decision to deny Republic Services their proposed expansion of the existing Coffin Butte Landfill. I was not amused. As in many cases I have reviewed in my career, I find that that Republic Services honestly made very little effort to address major concerns about leachate and groundwater contamination, increased airborne methane and PFAS levels, and increased noise just to name a few. Instead they cherry-picked data and largely gave "assurances" that those problems are all being taken care of. I saw no serious indication of HOW these problems will be addressed – no step-by-step explanations of how they will greatly improve their practices with the planned significant expansion of their operations.

Many of their claims are disingenuous – that arsenic levels are not a problem – when they are ALREADY a problem.

They claim noise levels will not be a problem and will be lowered regardless of the fact that the expansion will entail 3-4 years of 6-8 months/year of major earth moving. They simply said it would "Be better".

Republic Services downplayed the concern over fires and potential explosions.. They downplayed the fact that there were 28 documented fire calls from the Adair Fire department in the LAST TWO YEARS. They are right, 28 is nothing, right?

I was not amused by the very obvious public relations campaign they engaged in to get people to give glowing reviews and big "thumbs up" to the landfill expansion. Even the mayor of Albany was persuaded to talk them up. He apparently is not familiar with the dangerous levels of methane and airborne PFAS that will be floating over his city in the future. It just seems that the money they spent on a Public Relations campaign could instead have been better spent on improving their egregious worker safety practices and poor overall performance of their job duties.

Several facts, however, are indisputable. 1) Benton County does not want to be the de novo toxic waste dump for the surrounding regions. We do NOT WANT increased garbage coming into our community when the present level of service is unacceptable, and 2) It is clear that we need not a band-aid on our waste disposal problem, but a viable, common-sense long-term solution. Expanding the Coffin Butte Landfill is NOT that solution.