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

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IDENTIFIER: To 499

Angelica Rehkugler 720 SE Atwood Ave. Corvallis, OR 97333

October 14, 2025

RE: Application File # LU-24-027

Dear Commissioners Malone, Shephard and Wyse,

I strongly oppose the expansion of the landfill. The Board of Commissioners must uphold the Planning Commission's UNANIMOUS denial of the landfill expansion.

I have lived in this area for over 30 years. I shop at the farmer's markets and I support environmentally sustainable practices.

The current operation of the Coffin Butte Landfill is not sustainable. It was not well planned to begin with. It was used as a place to dispose of trash during the time that that the U.S. Army used the Camp Adair site for training in the 1940's. It was never planned to be the location for all of Oregon (and parts of Washington) to bring their trash. Now is the time to make plans for an environmentally sustainable method of garbage treatment for our community. Expanding the landfill is not that.

The proposed expansion seriously interferes with neighboring properties. The air and noise pollution coming from the landfill is already at alarming levels. The landfill is no longer appropriate for our urban area. Corvallis and Albany are expanding. Hundreds of homes have been built in Adair and North Albany in the recent years. The pollution from the landfill adversely effects the property values in the north Corvallis and North Albany areas.

The issue with the leachate is unacceptable. The Corvallis Water Treatment plant was not take remediate the toxic chemicals of leachate. Instead it is diluted and passed through into the Willamette River. The toxins coming from the landfill are also leaching into the groundwater. Republic Services does not treat the toxic byproducts of the landfill, but passes it along to its neighbors. This is a violation of the Benton County Comprehensive Plan policy 6.5.5.

I was alarmed to learn that the water intake for Adair is very close to the location where the water from the landfill comes into the Willamette River. I am a realtor, and have been practicing real estate for the past 25 years, here in Corvallis. This fact will get passed along to any of my clients who have questions about the possibility of living in Adair.

The landfill should not be located in the rainy Willamette Valley. There are dryer locations where the garbage can be more sustainably processed. At some point the current location will no longer be feasible. We are rapidly approaching that point. To allow the expansion of the landfill is to pass the problem on to our children. It will only get worse and more expensive to clean up this site in the future. It is time now to be a visionary and think about the needs of our future Benten County citizens. Please, be that visionary!

Respectfully,

Angelica Rehkeyler Angelica Rehkugler

Benton County Board of Commissioners 4500 SW Research Way Suite 100 Corvallis, OR 97333 RE: LU-25-027