

From: [Joseph Crockett](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Uphold Planning Commission Denial of LU-24-027
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 11:11:21 AM
Attachments: [Letter to commissioners.pdf](#)

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Dear Benton County Commissioners Wyse, Malone and Shepherd,

My name is Joe Crockett and I live at 37609 Soap Creek Rd, Corvallis, OR 97330. I have lived in Soap Creek Valley for 30 years.

There seems to be a false perception that equates the denial of the landfill expansion request LU-24-027 to the closing of the landfill. This misconception is deceptive and baseless. The fear of losing jobs, of not having any place to take our trash, of rising rates, has little to do with this expansion. In the BCC final report in 2023, the end of life of the landfill was estimated at 14-16 years. This expansion proposal will optimistically add only 5-6 years of life to the landfill. So the claim of losing jobs, the not having any place to take our trash, or price increases would potentially not occur until after the year 2037. (Though, as far as prices, a recent Polk County survey, Benton County already has the highest rates for a 32/35g container in 7 western Oregon counties.)

Republic Service's recent propaganda campaign is following the classic Fox News playbook of playing the imaginary fear card. There will be no immediate closing of the landfill. Rates won't suddenly increase and if there are layoffs, they shouldn't happen until after the year 2037.

Here is what we do know: With the expanded surface area, the effects on the air quality, the ground water, the accumulated trash along our highways, the smell, the noise, the increase levels of leachate, and for many, the quality of life in Benton County will be affected. And thinking that 85 conditions of approval will somehow fix this huge industrial waste problem, is a pipe dream. There is no dismissing the fact that increasing the landfill surface area will increase the amounts of methane released as well the amounts of leachate created. Please deny LU-24-027 and demand that the county start working on what waste management will look like in the year 2037.

Joe Crockett

To: landfillappeals@bentoncountyor.gov

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