

From: [Karen Jensen Nelles](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Written Testimony - LU-24-027 (Landfill Expansion Application)
Date: Thursday, March 20, 2025 3:03:38 PM

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Coffin Butte should not be expanded. Republic Services does not do a good job controlling methane gas and toxic leachate produced by the landfill that accepts garbage 90% from outside Benton county. The landfill should be reduced and other counties should take care of their garbage. Now is the time to do something different. Why did Benton Country agree to raise Republic Services garbage rates when only 10% of the landfill is supplied by Benton County. Benton County should do a better job of recycling. Benton County should tell Republic Services that Coffin Butte is no longer a regional landfill for the Willamette Valley. We need to reduce garbage by doing a better job sorting. All counties dumping in coffin butte should start now sorting and composting garbage to reduce the amount. Coffin butte should not be expanded. It should be reduced and managed differently. Republic Services is doing a terrible job. Their employees are working in toxic conditions and they do not care. Methane gas escapes from coffin butte on a daily basis and they do not care. Toxic leachate contaminates surrounding groundwater and they do not care. I do not trust Benton County commissioners to make the best decisions for residents of Benton County. Do the right thing. DO NOT EXPAND COFFIN BUTTE!

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