

From: [Community Development, Benton County, Oregon](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Feedback
Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 3:57:14 PM

Subject of Testimony: Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion

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Written Testimony:

Members of the Planning Commission:

I am a Corvallis resident and am concerned about the environmental impact of an expanded Coffin Butte Landfill. I strongly object to the proposed expansion and urge the Planning Commission to deny the application.

The Benton County Code (BCC) 53.215(3) requires that the application for a conditional use permit comply with "any additional criteria which may be required for the specific use by this code." BCC chapter 77 lists various requirements for land use activities in the Landfill Site Zone. Specifically, BCC 77.105(1) allows "municipal waste solid disposal, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FRANCHISE AND AN APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN" (emphasis added).

The applicant VLI's Coffin Butte Expansion application looks to the future, not the past. In the past, however, the existing Coffin Butte Landfill has emitted methane at explosive concentrations. Only a fraction of the gas has been captured and burned. The lack of monitoring has allowed VLI to continue releasing excessive methane with no adverse consequences to them or their profits. VLI has no reason to comply with future requirements when they have failed to comply with existing requirements. VLI includes their response to the

County Board of Commissioners dated February 23, 2024 (Exhibit 28, appearing in Part 13 of the 10-20-24 Revised Application). VLI takes the position that there is too much confusion about measurements and practices, so let's just continue what we're doing.

This attitude is unacceptable, and the application should be denied based on this history.

Thank you for your consideration in this important matter.

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