

**From:** [Susan Dornfeld](#)  
**To:** [Benton Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony opposing LU-24-027  
**Date:** Sunday, April 13, 2025 9:23:52 AM  
**Attachments:** [landfill gas plume.pdf](#)

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TO: Benton County Planning Commission

FROM: Susan Dornfeld, 6005 NW Vineyard Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

This testimony is about LU-24-027, the application to expand Coffin Butte Landfill.

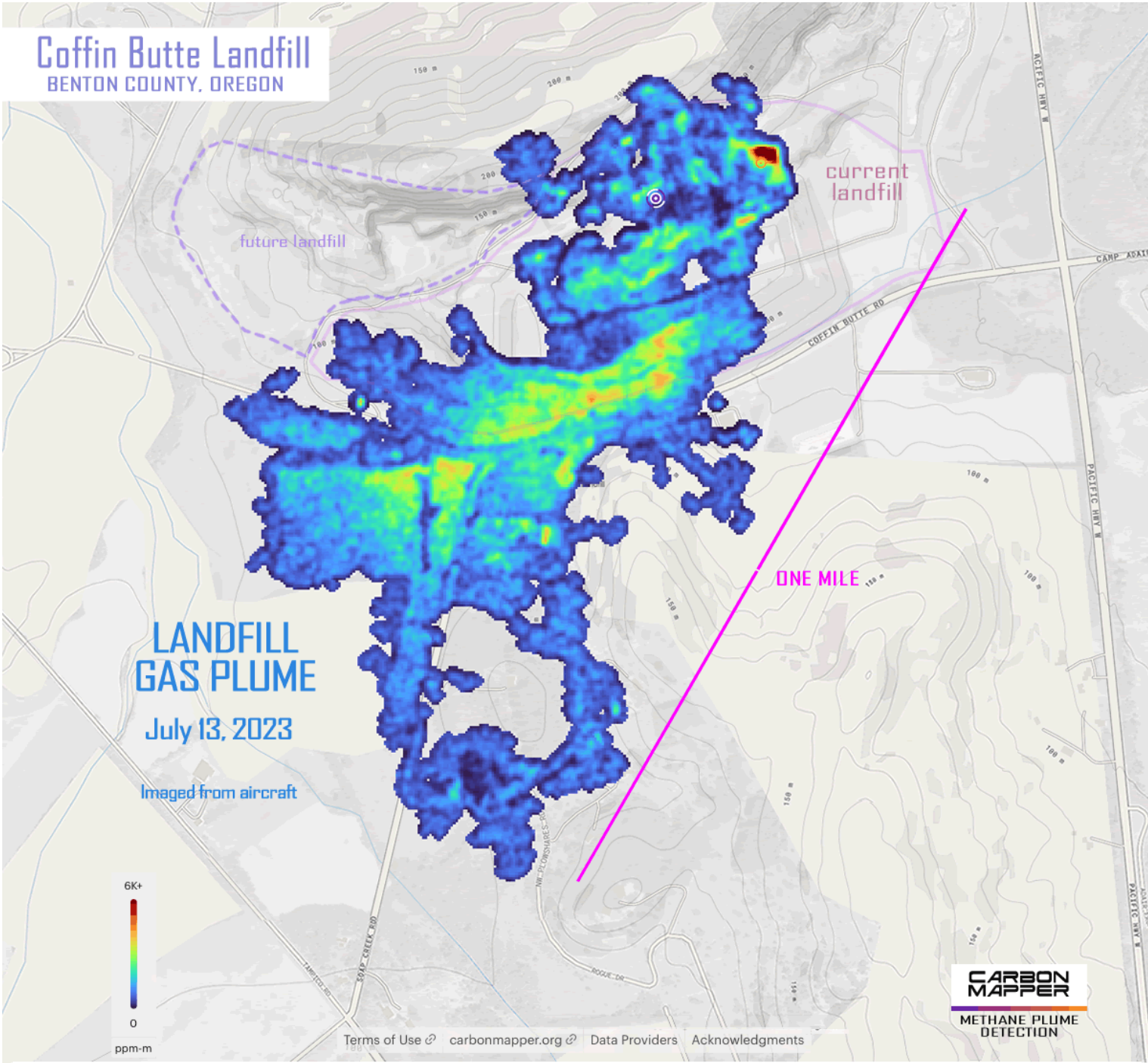
I strongly oppose this application, and I urge you to deny LU-24-027.

The proposed expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill (the landfill) would violate BCC 53.215 (1), which states “The proposed use does not seriously interfere with uses on adjacent property, with the character of the area, or with the purpose of the zone.” The character of the surrounding area is public recreation and rural residential, both of which rely on clean air. I live over seven miles from the landfill, and gases from the landfill negatively affect my health; when there is a temperature inversion my eyes burn, my throat hurts, and I have headaches. An inversion can last a week or more. This interferes with daily activities in my neighborhood like dog-walking, hiking, gardening, and children playing outdoors. Expansion of the landfill would further degrade air quality and impair public health. EE Wilson Wildlife Area is adjacent to the landfill, and offers wildlife watching, hunting, and fishing. How can these activities be enjoyed along with poor air quality, trash along the roadside, and increased garbage truck traffic?

I know that methane and other greenhouse gases are released from the landfill, because I have seen a map of the landfill gas plume, which is about a mile in length. I have attached a copy of the map, and you can see more information at [https://data.carbonmapper.org/register/?location=Coffin+Butte+Road%2C+Corvallis%2C+Oregon+97330%2C+US&details=CH4\\_6A\\_500m\\_-123.23207\\_44.70070%3Fstatus%3Dnot\\_deleted#11.88/44.70214/-123.21962](https://data.carbonmapper.org/register/?location=Coffin+Butte+Road%2C+Corvallis%2C+Oregon+97330%2C+US&details=CH4_6A_500m_-123.23207_44.70070%3Fstatus%3Dnot_deleted#11.88/44.70214/-123.21962).

The landfill emits 1.4 metric ~~tons~~ of methane per hour. This is 10.4 times greater than 100 kg/hr, which is a “super emitter event” under guidelines established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In January this year, the EPA initiated an action against the landfill. This strongly suggests that the EPA has cause to believe that the applicant is misrepresenting their environmental compliance. Given the serious nature of this action, I feel the Planning Commission must reject the application to expand the landfill, which relies on the same environmental record that the EPA is investigating.

Thank you for considering my testimony.



Source: carbonmapper.org