

From: [BARRY ALLEN](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027
Date: Friday, April 18, 2025 10:56:53 AM

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To: publiccomment@bentoncountyor.gov

Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027

Body: Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

My name is Barry J. Allen; my wife Jana and I live at 8512 Willings Way, Fair Oaks CA 95628.

I am writing because we strongly oppose Republic Services' Conditional Use Permit application LU-24-027 to expand the Coffin Butte landfill. We urge the Planning Commission to deny this application.

The proposed expansion would **seriously interfere with the character of the surrounding area** and impose **an undue burden on public resources**, in violation of Benton County Code 53.215 (1) and (2).

Specifically, this expansion raises major concerns about:

- **Air and water pollution** threaten our local ecosystems and community health
- **Traffic increases** that pose safety risks on nearby roads and pathways
- **Odor and noise issues** that degrade quality of life for residents and visitors
- **Negative impacts on wildlife, recreation, and property values**
- **Long-term climate and environmental consequences** for future generations

My stepdaughter Erin Bradley, her husband and their two daughters have lived on the west side of Hwy 99W for 15 plus years, less than a half mile south of (down-slope, and often down-wind, from) Coffin Butte Landfill. Her mother and I usually visit them a couple of times a year, staying on their property in our travel trailer for several days each visit.

Over the last few years, we have become very aware of noxious odors from the landfill when there is a north breeze. This is a significant concern, as both my wife and her daughter are highly allergic to environmental toxins which cause respiratory issues for both of them.

Over the years her family has lived on the property, our daughter (and both our granddaughters) have suffered increasing health issues, none of which have readily identifiable causes, but all of which have gradually increased in severity as the landfill has expanded.

Groundwater contamination is among their significant concerns – worry that that their well is affected has forced them to absorb the expense of using only bottled water for drinking and cooking. As they have horses and cattle on the property (the horses are assets of our daughter's equine therapy foundation, Bit By Bit) there's also concern for the health of their animals, as their well is the animals' only water supply.

In recent years, we've noticed a significant increase in the amount of debris blowing onto their property from the landfill. We have also been aware of an increasing number of trucks hauling trash to the landfill passing in front of their house, with a

concomitant increase in the amount of litter (paper, plastic bags and other lightweight debris) along 99W that has blown out of those trucks.

The proposed expansion does nothing to align with *Benton County's 2040 Thriving Communities Initiative*. This expansion undermines our shared goals for responsible environmental stewardship, prioritizing public health, and sustainable waste management.

I believe Benton County should invest in waste reduction, recycling, and circular economy solutions, not expanding landfills that perpetuate pollution and place a long-term burden on local communities!

Please reject LU-24-027. Thank you for your consideration and for protecting the health and future of Benton County.

Sincerely,

Barry & Jana Allen

8512 Willings Way

Fair Oaks CA 95628