From: Lee, Janet

To: <u>Benton Public Comment</u>

Cc: <u>Lee, Janet</u>

Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027

Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 1:09:57 PM

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Dear Benton County Planning Commission,

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

I'm sure from the outpouring of public opposition to this application you are very well aware of the many hazards associated with a landfill expansion: the ways it violates Benton County codes (BCC 53.215 [1] and [2]) by interfering with uses on adjacent property and the character of the area, as well as the ways it imposes undue burdens on the multiple community and services. I am VERY concerned about all these issues but would like to focus my opposition here on the environmental consequences of an expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill.

First I am concerned about air quality and methane production produced by this facility. Second, my family lives within 5 miles of Coffin Butte landfill and we are concerned about the effects of toxic leachate on our well and water supply. This is also an issue for Corvallis residents on city water because the leachate from the landfill is processed at the city's water treatment centre and then released into the Willamette River. How could Benton County allow this kind of risk for its residents? Third, there

is long term liability associated with community health and safety if Benton County allows this expansion. I'm sure you recognise how Republic Services have a record of ignoring and/or violating environmental regulations. Fourth, the Coffin Butte area contains diverse and vulnerable ecosystems. There is an elk herd that migrates here, including herons, bald eagles, and other wildlife that will be affected. Surely there is concern about these vulnerable populations as well respect for this outstandingly beautiful area that will be covered in trash.

Please vote against this proposal -- and thank you for your service on the commission.

Janet Lee

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