

**From:** [Community Development, Benton County, Oregon](#)  
**To:** [Benton Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** LU-24-027 Coffin Butte Proposed Expansion Written Feedback  
**Date:** Monday, April 21, 2025 3:56:18 PM

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Subject of Testimony: Coffin Butte Landfill CUP planning and application

Full Name: Jim

Email: jim@alderspring.net

Street Address: 31540 Homestead Road, Philomath, Oregon, 97370

Written Testimony:

I strenuously urge the Planning Commission to reject this CUP application completely, without condition. Besides the overwhelmingly negative impacts noted by many, I note that Benton County and its staff, led by county counsel Vance Croney (and possibly the County Administrator) have circumvented Oregon Public Meeting Laws to hamstring and otherwise limit public engagement. The convening the BCTT to talk about everything BUT the real potential of this CUP re-application by Republic Services, to dismissing active BCTT members whose leadership no longer wanted to hear from, while cancelling two advisory bodies to which the public could bring concerns over, to the at late notice assigning public evaluation of landfill expansion issue to the ENRAC body which had no familiarity with the issue, and which held some relevant meetings not publicly notified or recorded, and never allowed public comment, a public advisory body pressed by staff to act with little time to supply a simple response with encouragement not to review the entire document. After the BCTT supplied its report, the county then convened a SMMP work group, choosing a new county resident who had success in moving a California landfill forward, and who was ASSIGNED, not elected, as Chair, again supplanting the urgent need for county public engagement with a regionally focused work group that was entirely outside county control, which could not address the expected next CUP application. Thank you for your work.

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