

From: [Debbie P](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Testimony regarding LU-24-027
Date: Monday, April 21, 2025 11:31:23 AM
Attachments: [Benton County Dems Approved-Resolution-2024-03.pdf](#)
[Benton County Republicans Signed Resolution.pdf](#)
[LBG LandfillResolution.pdf](#)

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Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

Attached please find three remarkable documents, demonstrating unequivocally that stopping this (and any future) landfill expansion is a non-partisan issue: Resolutions by the *Benton County Democrats*, by the *Benton County Republicans*, and by the *Linn-Benton Pacific Green Party*. All three detail their reasons for why this landfill should not be allowed to expand, and further that no new landfill should ever be allowed in Benton County.

Please - read what they have to say, and then on behalf of EVERYONE - deny this expansion application.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Palmer
37340 Moss Rock Dr
Corvallis, OR 97330



BC DEMS RESOLUTION 2024-03

WHEREAS, climate change is the pre-eminent Democratic Party issue; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party 2024 platform asserts “there is nothing more important than addressing the climate crisis;” and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party platform asserts “We have no time to waste in taking action to protect Americans’ lives and futures;” and

WHEREAS, methane is the most potent greenhouse gas, trapping 86 times more heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the time to reduce carbon emissions is time-limited to 10-20 years if catastrophic temperature rise is to be prevented; and

WHEREAS, Republic Services’ Coffin Butte Landfill in Benton County is a methane super emitter because of numerous irremediable factors, including precipitation, waste intake volume type and quantity, and inadequate regulation, it is in the best interest of Benton County, and the planet, that the landfill reduce methane-producing waste-in-place; and

WHEREAS, by definition expanding the landfill will increase volumes of waste-in-place, not reduce those volumes; and

WHEREAS, Benton County has ceded control over waste intake volumes if the landfill is expanded; and

WHEREAS, any landfill expansion will increase methane output even without a removal of the existing waste intake volume cap; and

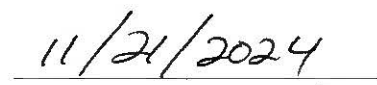
WHEREAS, methane-monitoring regulatory agencies such as the EPA are likely to be constrained in their abilities to effectively regulate emissions for the next near-, medium-, and long-term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Central Committee of the Benton County Democrats, in order to protect the earth’s climate, endorses the denial of any expansion request of the existing landfill, and any new landfill in Benton County.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY: VIRGINIA SCOTT (PCP, pct. 16), NANCY WHITCOMBE (PCP, pct. 16), and CATHERINE STEARNS (PCP, pct. 16)

APPROVED BY THE BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 21, 2024


2nd Vice Chair Holly Shutta


Date



Benton County Republicans

Chair@BentonGOP.org
BentonGOP.org
(541) 497-7191

The Central Committee of the Benton County Republican Party formally opposes any further expansion of the Benton County Coffin Butte Landfill as of April 19, 2025.

WHEREAS the Republican Party is deeply committed to the health and welfare of all residents and visitors in Benton County, regardless of race, gender, age, or economic standing;

WHEREAS the Republican Party holds a strong appreciation for the natural beauty of the Willamette Valley and is dedicated to maintaining a healthy environment characterized by clean air and water;

WHEREAS the Republican Party advocates for sustainable and well-managed agricultural and forestry practices that support our vital farmlands and forestlands;

WHEREAS the landfill presents significant risks to the quality of air, water, and land in our valley, thereby jeopardizing the health and well-being of all living beings;

WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identified 41 methane leaks at the landfill in 2024, with numerous instances exceeding the legal limit of 500 parts per million (ppm);

WHEREAS more than 31 million tons of leachate are discharged into the Willamette River annually through wastewater facilities in Salem and Corvallis;

WHEREAS the Coffin Butte Landfill releases thirty different hazardous air pollutants;

WHEREAS the landfill has expanded considerably establishing itself as a dominant feature in the county and continues to grow at a rate of over 1.1 million tons per year;

WHEREAS the county and state governments have shown an inadequate capacity or willingness to appropriately monitor, inspect, and enforce the operational regulations and statutes pertaining to the landfill as required by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 459;

WHEREAS there are other viable alternatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to safeguard our air, water, and land, to preserve the natural beauty of our valley, to enhance the productivity of our farmlands and forests, and to protect the health of our residents, the Benton County Republican Party strongly endorses the rejection of any expansion requests for the existing landfill or any new landfill within the county. The Benton County Republican Party requests the County Commissioners create a new and inclusive planning process to accommodate equal and fair consideration of all other options.


R Keith Lembke

Chairman, Benton County Republican Party

19 APRIL, 2025

PO Box 808
Corvallis, OR 97339



Linn-Benton Pacific Green Party

33221 SE Peoria Rd., Corvallis OR 97333

RE: Republic Services Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion Proposal - LU-24-027

RESOLUTION Passed by Linn-Benton Pacific Green Party on 12/10/2024:

WHEREAS, climate change is a pre-eminent issue facing the planet, the United States, and Benton County; and

WHEREAS, there is nothing more important than addressing the climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, we have no time to waste in taking action to protect Americans' lives and futures; and

WHEREAS, methane is the most potent greenhouse gas, trapping 86 times more heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the time to reduce carbon emissions is time-limited to 10-20 years if catastrophic temperature rise is to be prevented; and

WHEREAS, Republic Services' Coffin Butte Landfill in Benton County is a methane superemitter because of numerous irremediable factors, including precipitation, waste intake volume type and quantity, and inadequate regulation, it is in the best interest of Benton County, and the planet, that the landfill reduce methane-producing waste-in-place; and

WHEREAS, by definition expanding the landfill will increase volumes of waste-in-place, not reduce those volumes; and

WHEREAS, Benton County has ceded control over waste intake volumes if the landfill is expanded; and

WHEREAS, any landfill expansion will increase methane output even without a removal of the existing waste intake volume cap; and

WHEREAS, methane-monitoring regulatory agencies such as the EPA are likely to be constrained in their abilities to effectively regulate emissions for the next near-, medium-, and long-term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to protect the earth's climate, the Linn-Benton Pacific Green Party endorses the denial of any expansion request of the existing landfill, and any new landfill in Benton County.