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**To:** [Benton Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [dytaylor1@comcast.net](mailto:dytaylor1@comcast.net)  
**Subject:** Oppose/Deny LU-24-027".  
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To: Benton County Commissioners,

I am writing to indicate my opposition to the expansion of the Coffin Butte landfill. In addition to the impact on county residents living around the area, the landfill and any expansion does not align with the County Comprehensive Plan. Alternatives exist and they should be evaluated before any expansion becomes a long-term burden on the county.

Leachate and its load of dangerous chemicals is one of the significant issues with the existing landfill and will increase with any expansion. Increased significant rain events are expected to occur as the climate changes, and any proposed engineering solutions may not be sufficient in the future (as well as extremely costly to mitigate). Because our environment is so damp, the leachate is an exceptionally challenging issue. Dealing with escaping and increasing leachate does not align with Sections 6.177 and 6.5.4 of the Comprehensive plan. Also, any leachate reaching the Willamette river would spread the contamination far outside the existing site.

I recently heard that the Benton County Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Committee voted 5-1 to recommend denial of Republic's application to expand the landfill.

It's my understanding that Republic Services is only responsible for maintaining the landfill for 30 years once it stops accepting garbage. It seems highly unlikely that the county would not have to assume a multi-year burden to address environmental issues once that happens. A larger landfill could mean a larger burden on the county.

Finally, other counties have opted to transport their solid waste to another location rather than dealing with the substantial local impacts. I know that Linn County has a highly underutilized transfer truck-rail facility that might be an option for the transfer portion.

In closing, please vote NO on the expansion and end the destruction and risk to Benton County.

Thanks and Regards,  
Dave Taylor  
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