

From: [Adam Holdorf](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose/Deny LU-24-027
Date: Sunday, April 27, 2025 4:50:36 PM

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Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

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

My sister, her partner, and my stepmother reside on tax lot 10419B001500 and share a property line with Republic Services. This lot has been our family's home since 1989. Our well is within 1,000 feet of the crest of Tampico Ridge.

In denying the initial Conditional Use Application a few years ago, members of the Planning Commission expressed the need for a comprehensive solid waste management strategy. Such an approach would balance the case for this landfill's expansion with a consideration of alternatives.

Evidently, no such action has taken place. Benton County, with just 2 percent of the population of Oregon, takes the waste of 20 percent of all state residents. My family, our neighbors, and other residents of Benton County bear a disproportionate burden for the state's failure to justly plan for solid waste disposal.

We pay in the stronger-than-ever smell of the landfill on the frequent—more frequent than ever—mornings when its nuisance gases seep through the still air.

We pay in fear: What should we do if our well water is already contaminated? How would we know?

And within a few years, we will face a morbid reckoning as a mountain of trash overtakes the highest point of Coffin Butte.

Humans—innately vigilant for threat and opportunity—have always looked to the horizon. Shortsighted planning by county officials will soon mean that for miles around, for tens of thousands of county residents, a new

landmark will mar our vision. North of Coffin Butte Road, when the sky bends toward the earth it will touch only garbage.

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).

My family has lived on this land for more than 35 years, with a hope to continue our stewardship, and with an understanding that the landfill's owners would continue to use its buffer property to the south of Coffin Butte as just that: a buffer. We have lived uneasily in the shadow of our neighbor, watching its operations grow, but we have determined to live and made meaningful investments in our property. My family has the same right as every one of your constituents to breathe clean air and drink clean water at the place we call home.

Sincerely,

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