

**From:** [Dave Larmouth](#)  
**To:** [Benton Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [Dave Larmouth](#)  
**Subject:** Coffin Butte Landfill Expansion  
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**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dave Larmouth – Outreach Manager, Dahl Disposal Service

Good evening Commissioners. My name is Dave Larmouth, and I am the Outreach Manager for the Dahl family of companies, including Dahl Disposal Service, a solid waste and recycling collection company serving East and South Lincoln County. Dahl has been a family-owned small business since 1964. We currently employ fifty people who work hard every day to provide for their families.

I am here tonight to express my support for the proposed expansion of the Coffin Butte Landfill. This facility is essential to keeping our local solid waste system safe and affordable. We already struggle with illegal dumping and burning in our County, and a significant increase in the cost of disposal will drive more people to make choices that are harmful to public health and our environment.

This issue is bigger than Benton County. The idea of a regional landfill makes good economic sense, as there are economies of scale that are possible with larger quantities of material that do not pencil out at smaller facilities. However, with the closure of Riverbend Landfill in Yamhill County, and the waste-to-energy facility in Marion County, Coffin Butte is our sole remaining disposal site in this region. If we cannot expand Coffin Butte Landfill and extend its lifespan, we will be left with few alternatives, all of which are located in Eastern Oregon. The additional hauling distance would increase our disposal costs significantly, as well as increase the amount of fossil fuels and air emissions that go along with long-haul truck transport. Increased disposal costs will negatively impact the families, businesses, schools and hospitals of Lincoln County.

The process of siting new landfills in Western Oregon has been described as nearly impossible, due to the complexity of Oregon's land use and environmental regulations. We need to make decisions that are best for the entire region, not just the neighbors. Many of the vocal opponents to this expansion chose to buy land near an existing landfill, then push lawmakers to get it shut down because they don't like the view or the truck traffic.

People often talk about making decisions for the greater good. In this case, the best use of resources is to expand Coffin Butte Landfill and put off an expensive alternative for as long as possible.

Thank you.

Dave Larmouth  
(he/him/his)  
Dahl Disposal Service  
Cell: 971-241-8807



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