

From: [Legrande Johnson](#)
To: [Benton Public Comment](#)
Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027
Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:49:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: publiccomment@bentoncountyor.gov

Subject: Oppose/Deny LU-24-027

Dear Benton County Planning Commissioners,

My name is Jennifer Johnson and I live at 1730 NW Sulphur Springs Rd Corvallis OR 97330

I am writing because I strongly oppose Republic Services' Conditional Use Permit application LU-24-027 to expand the Coffin Butte landfill. I urge the Planning Commission to deny this application.

Three problems: Odor, noise and lack of a long-term waste solution for Benton County.

Republic Services has NOT demonstrated that they will decrease the noise and odor problems that currently plague the area. The paid specialist for solving the noise problem determined that based on the median noise level they measured the landfill is basically already complying. Median noise may be calculable but it is not the level that humans and animals are at ease with or disturbed by. Less frequent, louder sounds are what disturbs and troubles us. If three gun shots went off just outside of a building during a meeting the median noise level heard in the building would not be what people noticed. They would be disrupted by and remember those 3 momentary sounds. To judge noise by aggregating all the noises, determining where most of the noise level is and determining that is the number that counts does nothing to LOWER the noise level. People live in and seek out the rural parts of our county for it's peacefulness. That is one of the most essential qualities that make up the character of the area.

Difficulties validating and measuring odor because of the quality of public odor complaints does not mean there is not a significant odor problem now. Drive up Hwy 99, on up the north end of Soap Creek Rd, or to EE Wilson and your nose will be all the proof you need that the landfill emits noxious odors. Common sense is enough to understand that wind and heat can move those odors into the surrounding, residential and rural areas easily. Any expansion of the landfill will clearly increase these problems. The area proposed for expansion is currently a barrier to sound and odor entering the valley. If new waste is loaded up and over that hill it will not only remove the barrier that hill currently provides but it will be an additional contributor to these problems.

If Republic Services was committed to partnering with the local community they would have spent the years since their first application SOLVING the current problems with odor and sound. Not paying specialists to try to prove that the community is not seeing and hearing what we are speaking up about.

Benton County residents expect planning that provides us a longer term solution for our waste

than Republic's plan for expansion would allow. If approved and they truck in so much waste from outside the county that it fills up in 17 years where will our waste go then? We should be planning now for OUR county's future waste and for the long term. We need a landfill partner who prioritizes solving Benton County's waste management now and for generations to come. Republic Services has demonstrated they are committed to the county only in so far as they are allowed to truck in outside waste to ensure they are very profitable.

Please deny this application for expansion.

Thank you for your work on behalf of the residents of Benton County.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Johnson
Corvallis, Oregon