

From: [Paul Nietfeld](#)
To: [REDACTED]; [REDICK Daniel](#); [Mark Yeager](#); [REDACTED]; [Ken Eklund](#); [Sam Imperati](#)
Cc: [Benton County Talks Trash](#)
Subject: Information for A.1 Subcommittee meeting of 9 Nov. 2022
Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 11:19:20 AM
Attachments: [Nietfeld memo to SC A1 8Nov2022.pdf](#)

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In preparation for the 11/8/2022 BCTT A.1 Subcommittee meeting, I have three items, detailed in the attached doc:

1. An update on the Intake Volume History slide I presented 9/15/2022 to the workgroup, specifically in regard to the significant 2016-2017 volume step-up.
2. A clarification on the Landfill Life matrix I presented 9/15/2022 to the workgroup.
3. A *proposed* outline of the document to be produced by this subcommittee, which may serve as a straw man in the 11/9/2022 discussion. A number of committee members are already submitting data and/or documents, some of which are already bearing fruit (see Item 1 in attached), but I would submit that agreement on an outline/overview for our work product is in order at this point.

Regards,
Paul Nietfeld

TO: BCTT Subcommittee A.1 Landfill Size/Capacity/Longevity, Sam Imperati

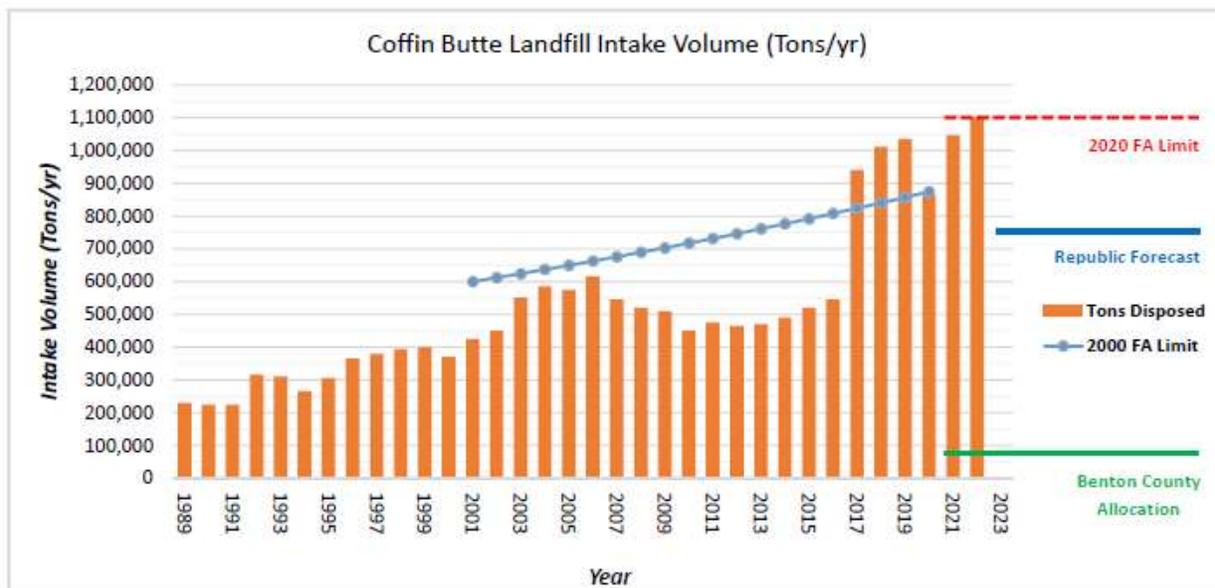
FROM: Paul Nietfeld, private citizen

SUBJECT: Items for Nov. 9 subcommittee meeting

DATE: November 8, 2022

Item 1: Update on Intake Volume History plot presented 9/15/2022 to the workgroup

I presented the following plot to the workgroup on 9/15/2022:



In the discussion of this plot I pointed to the dramatic intake volume increase in 2016-2017, questioned the source of this increase, noted that there were apparent violations of the 2000 Landfill Franchise Agreement intake cap, and asked why the county had taken no action as a result of these apparent violations.

Republic Services, in their [Landfill Site Life – Republic Services 9-30-22](#) document submitted to the A.1 subcommittee, noted that the 2016-2017 volume increase was due to disruption of the Riverbend Landfill in Yamhill County and that excess waste “was diverted to Coffin Butte under a Memorandum of Understanding executed with Benton County Commissioners December 1, 2016.” CDD staff member Daniel Redick and Benton County Council have located this 2016 MOU: [2016 Benton County & Republic Services MOU](#). The information provided by Republic Services on this topic and the content of the MOU address to a large extent the questions I originally posed on this aspect of the intake volume history; I believe the only remaining uncertainties in the 2017-2019 period revolve around the 2019 intake level, since the MOU agreement was that the Riverbend to Coffin Butte diversion would only occur “for a term of 1-2 years” beginning in Jan. 2017 (i.e. CY 2017 and possibly CY 2018); however, in retrospect it would not be surprising if the duration of the Riverbend disruption impact extended beyond the initially-expected 1-2 years.

Thank you to Republic Services and county staff for clearing this up.

Item 2: Clarification on the Landfill Life matrix presented 9/15/2022 to the workgroup

I presented the following matrix to the workgroup on 9/15/2022 as rough estimates of the expected Coffin Butte landfill life under various intake volumes:

Volume (Tons/year)	Operating Life (years, beyond 2022)	Year Capacity is Reached	Notes
75,000	199	2221	Benton County volume
500,000	29.9	2051	Approx. 2008 volume
750,000	19.9	2041	Republic forward estimation volume
1,100,000	13.6	2035	Current rate and 2020 Franchise Agreement cap

In the 10/25/2022 A.1 subcommittee meeting a member from Republic Services indicated that as part of the workgroup and subcommittee Republic Services was not going to engage in speculations that are not feasible, specifically referencing the (roughly) 200 year estimate for life shown in the table above when intake equals the Benton County reserved annual volume.

Clarification:

The example of landfill life with only Benton County waste as intake was a means of pointing out to Benton County citizens and officials just how little of the landfill inflow is sourced by Benton County, and was not meant as a serious proposal for future operation of the landfill. Note that this was just one of several example intake volumes used, each chosen to highlight a specific point (see “Notes” column in the matrix above). Also note that the example volumes used in this chart correlate to specific defined levels and/or specific yearly totals (i.e. 2008, the year Republic Services acquired Allied Waste) shown in the Intake Volume History plot, which was presented immediately prior to this chart in the 9/15/2022 workgroup meeting.

My apologies if this example was misconstrued as a serious proposal; I tried in my verbal comments at the 9/15/2022 meeting in which this was presented to note the surprising (i.e. unrealistic) operating life estimate that results from this assumed intake volume.

Author comment:

All knowledgeable Benton County citizens and administrators understand that Benton County has lost control of the Coffin Butte landfill except for the thin reed of the 2020 Franchise Agreement intake tonnage cap and the potential for the county to deny further expansion. Rate regulation of Coffin Butte Landfill was waived in the 2000 Landfill Franchise Agreement, as was (according to the 2001 Baseline Study) County input as to “the origin or volume of solid waste disposed at the landfill.” Thus Benton County participants in the 9/15/2022 workgroup meeting should have clearly recognized the rhetorical aspect of the “200 year” example.

Item 3: Proposed (straw man) outline of A.1 Subcommittee report

Background: Specific Basis

Charge A: Common Understandings:

- 1) A chronological history of key Coffin Butte Landfill topics:
 1. Size
 2. Specific locations
 3. Assumptions (e.g. when will the landfill close)

Background: Assumptions/extrapolations (by the author)

1. "Size" should include information on
 - a. Landfill lot size
 - i. Perhaps a table of VLI purchases over time, with notes on those sections subjected to zoning changes (e.g. FC -> LS)
 - ii. Permitted space grants, perhaps in a simple table
 - b. History
 - i. Intake volume (perhaps a plot similar to that in Item 1 above)
 - ii. Available space (perhaps a plot of available airspace over time)
 - c. Current state
 - i. Map showing current landfill area, annotated with taxlots and zoning
 - ii. Map showing existing and planned landfill cells, probably based on the 2021 Site Development Plan (SDP) Appendix A maps and drawings
2. "Specific locations" should include data on specific lots (and their zoning definition) making up the landfill property; much/all of this might be incorporated in 1(a) above.
3. "Assumptions" is noted as incorporating information on when the landfill might close, and so should include
 - a. Simple projection of landfill capacity (filled + airspace) projected to the end of this year (2022); this will effectively be a projection of what will be in the 2022 Coffin Butte Annual Report "Landfill Capacity" section and can be used to detail and explain underlying assumptions of density, cover allocation and intake rate for subsequent longer-term projections (in 3(b) below)
 - b. A detailed site life projection. The most obvious model for this is contained in the 2021 SDP produced for the franchisee. Table 1 of this SDP provides a detailed breakdown of projected life by landfill sub cell, and Section 2.2 of this document details the assumptions underlying the numbers in Table 1.
 - c. Modifications of the projections in the SDP should be presented incorporating various scenarios for higher/lower flow (e.g. wildfire debris, status change to other landfills in the waste flow area, etc.)
4. The document should be concise and readable by non-experts (e.g. BoC members, Planning Commission members, etc.)

Proposed report outline:

Derived heavily from above context, my apologies for the repetition.

1. SIZE

- a. Landfill lot size
 - i. Table of VLI purchases over time, with notes on those sections subjected to zoning changes (e.g. FC -> LS)
 - ii. Permitted space grants, perhaps in a simple table
- b. History
 - i. Intake volume plot (intake per calendar year)
 - ii. Available space lot (available airspace over time)
- c. Current state
 - i. Map showing current landfill area, annotated with taxlots and zoning
 - ii. Map showing existing and planned landfill cells. Could simply reference the detailed maps and drawings of Appendix A of the 2021 Site Development Plan (SDP), with discussion if needed

2. SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

- a. Table of specific lots (with zoning designations and permitted constraints (if any)) making up the landfill property

3. LANDFILL LIFE PROJECTIONS

- a. Simple projection of landfill capacity (filled + airspace) projected to the end of this year (2022); this will effectively be a projection of what will be in the 2022 Coffin Butte Annual Report "Landfill Capacity" section and can be used to detail and explain underlying assumptions of density, cover allocation and intake rate for subsequent longer-term projections (in 3(b) below), and can serve as a reasonably confident baseline for the longer-term projections
- b. A detailed site life projection to End of Life (EOL). The most obvious model for this is contained in the 2021 SDP produced for the franchisee. Table 1 of this SDP provides a detailed breakdown of projected life by landfill sub cell, and Section 2.2 of this document details the assumptions underlying the numbers in Table 1.
- c. Modifications of the projections in the SDP should be presented incorporating various scenarios for higher/lower flow (e.g. wildfire debris, recycling rates, watershed population changes, status change to other landfills in the waste flow area, etc.)
- d. Summary table of EOL estimates for all considered scenarios (3(b) and 3(c))

Possible additional informative sections could include

4. Q&A – list key questions and answers derived by the subcommittee
5. Open Questions
6. Appendices
 - A. Intake volume table (could be sourced from DEQ or franchisee records)
 - B. Used/Available space table (franchisee records are probably best here)
 - C. Life projection details (notes on assumptions, calculations, etc.)