



2023 Coffin Butte Landfill Community Member Concerns Annual Staff Report

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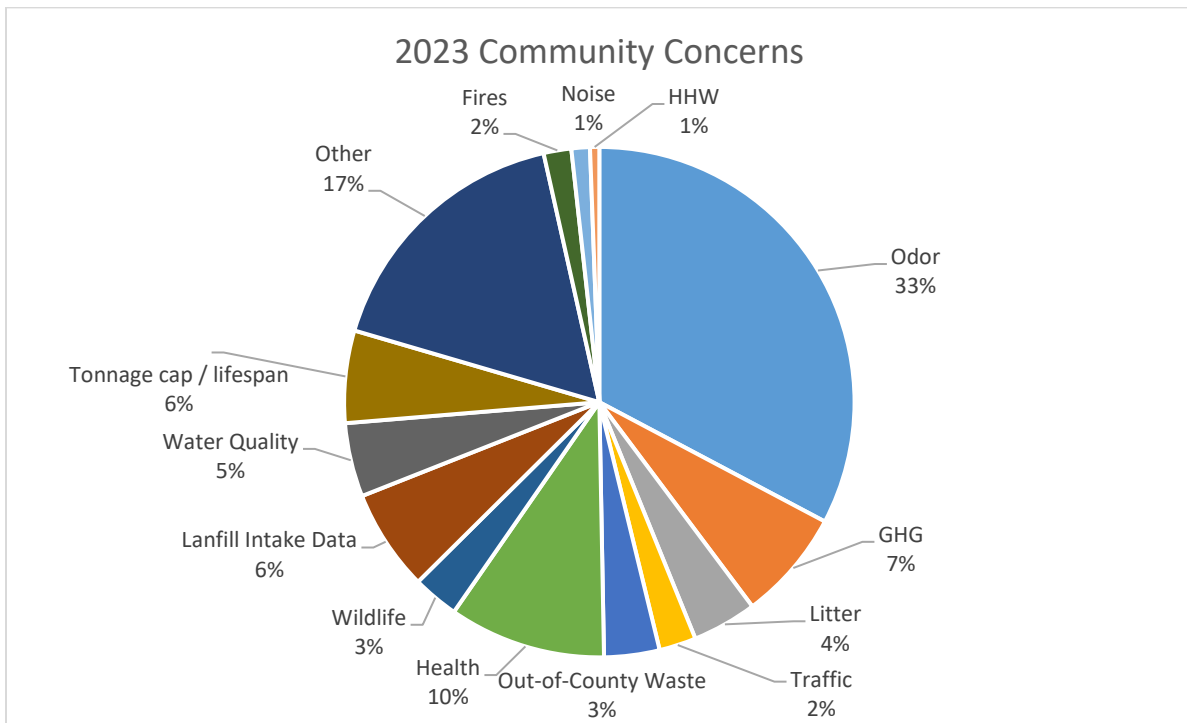
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The duties of Benton County’s Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC) are outlined in Oregon state law—specifically in ORS 459.325, which includes the requirement that “the committee shall prepare an annual written report summarizing the local citizens’ concerns and the manner in which the owner or operator is addressing those concerns” which will be considered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as part of issuing and renewing a solid waste permit.

Benton County staff and the DSAC have prepared the following staff report summarizing community member concerns regarding Coffin Butte Landfill in 2023, which may be used by DSAC to meet the requirements of ORS 459.325. Concerns listed in this report have been compiled using information from the Coffin Butte Landfill & Pacific Region Compost Annual Report 2023, comments made at Benton County Talks Trash meetings, complaints received by Benton County staff, complaints received by Republic Services, the Oregon DEQ and concerns presented during DSAC meetings.

One hundred twenty-two complaints about the Coffin Butte Landfill were reported in 2023 as detailed in the table below. Some complaints included numerous topics while others focused on a single concern. The complaints were organized into themes as illustrated in the following pie chart.

The complaints received by Benton County directly were fairly evenly distributed by topic, with odor complaints as the single topic with the most complaints. Odor complaints were one third of all of the concerns reported. In response, Coffin Butte Landfill has reported that it has expanded its methane capture system to reduce fugitive gasses from escaping. Complaints categorized as “Other” were largely comments on the Benton County Talks Trash process, service complaints and people reporting their opposition to the landfill expansion.



Coffin Butte Landfill Community Concern Log 2023

#	Date	Concern Summary	Received By:	Compliant / Concern Communication Method	Manner in which the landfill is addressing those concerns
1	5-Jan-2023	<p>1/5/23 - Staff received Email reporting that the complainants glass and neighbors only gets picked up about 50% of the time. The big tan cart is always picked up (a different truck). The email also said that the complainant tried to contact Republic Services via email and phone (541.754.0444) without response.</p> <p>I've tried to get in touch with Republic Services about glass pickup. Nearly impossible to get a hold of them at 541.754.0444. Got no response when emailing Republic Services. So I'm contacting you since the county has a franchise agreement with Republic Services.</p> <p>Glass pickup is supposed to be the first full week of each month. Our glass and neighbors only gets picked up about 50% of the time. The big tan cart is always picked up (a different truck). Perhaps the glass truck person is careless - I don't know. My address is 8910 NW Wynoochee Dr, Corvallis. I'm hoping that someone from the county can put some pressure on Republic Services to do the job they are supposed to do.</p>	Written comment	Email	1/6/23 - Daniel emailed Kenny Larson requesting more information and investigation into the issue. Daniel also responded to Mr. Bucht to let him know that Republic Services has been contacted.
2	11-Jan-2023	<p>1/11/23 - Ken Eklund sent an email with a PDF complaint that the landfill lights go on at 4:45am each day, possibly impacting migratory birds, other wildlife, and the terms of the CUP.</p> <p>The conditions of the CUP, including the lights, are being examined by staff currently. Daniel forwarded this concern to Greg Verret to be investigated as a code compliance file.</p>	Written comment	Email	2/28 - Land use issue for code compliance. In-progress
3	12-Jan-2023	<p>1/12/23 - Rana Foster emailed saying that they smelled a strong methane smell coming from the landfill on 1/11/23 while hiking nearby.</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel sent an email with this information to the landfill staff, Ian MacNab and Broc Keinholtz.
4	14-Jan-2023	<p>I was planning on going for a walk with a neighbor but could barely make it 10 steps down the driveway before I got light headed and a headache. It essentially made the outdoors of our home inhospitable. I've noticed much more odor trash and noise coming from the Coffin Butte Landfill and Knife River quarry in the last five years. On walks I've taken around our property the last couple months I've found multiple plastic bags and trash that could only have floated there from the landfill or people</p>	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported

		traveling to and from it. It's aesthetically not pleasing and harms the soil and animal health on our property.			
5	25-Jan-2023	air stagnation causes the stench from the landfill and the composting facility to stick close to the valley floor and make its way to our location This happens every time we have an inversion and an air stagnation situation It is disgusting and prevents anyone from working or exercising outside	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
6	26-Jan-2023	1. Concerns about landfill tonnage cap, lifespan, and revenue;	DSAC Meeting	Meeting, and written comment	Unknown
7	26-Jan-2023	2. Concerns about the Republic Service trucks that are expelling greenhouse gases along with the debris escaping the trucks and littering the roadway;	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
8	26-Jan-2023	1. landfill accepting out-of-county waste;	SWAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
9	26-Jan-2023	2. Air quality impacts from landfill cover;	SWAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
10	26-Jan-2023	3. Unknown volume/types of hazardous materials accepted at the landfill;	SWAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
11	26-Jan-2023	We assume this is the result of garbage dumping at Coffin Butte Landfill. Many of our neighbors have complained of the same problem especially on winter days like today.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
12	31-Jan-2023	Garbage trucks releasing roadside Litter and debris - Hwy 99; Acceptance of out-of-county waste; Traffic near landfill; Odors from landfill and PRC;	Benton County	Phone	Benton County provided odor complaint resources
13	31-Jan-2023	Landfill and PRC Concerns. Commercial trucks losing material on the way to the landfill creating excessive roadside debris. Experiencing a lot of garbage truck traffic. Odors from landfill and PRC.	Benton County	Written comment	Odor, Waste accumulation, traffic
14	31-Jan-2023	Same old same old. Landfill stench seems to be most noticeable when there is a shift in local atmospheric conditions. Today the high pressure system we've been under seems to be lifting and cloudiness is coming in. Along with the stench.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
15	1-Feb-2023	The usual odors emanating from Coffin Butte Landfill	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
16	17-Feb-2023	Complainant reported very distinct disturbing and strong smell coming from Coffin Butte Landfill. According to the complainant the odor started around 3:30am and lasted until 9:00am before it dissipated. The odor is very caustic and smelled like bug killer or grass killer. The complainant said this is the first time he experience this odor in 40 years.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
17	17-Feb-2023	The air smells terrible.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported

18	17-Feb-2023	Went to go to work and smelled that familiar acrid smell on the land fill. This smell is not an organic smell like from the compost facility. I know the difference. The smell has gotten much worse as the landfill has been bringing in garbage from all over Or. and Wa.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
19	22-Feb-2023	Today was the classic local weather situation in Soap Creek Valley that gives rise (pun intended) to hideous odors. Early morning fog which gradually burns off. As it starts to lift usually around 9-11 am it draws air from the north which is the airshed around Coffin Butte Landfill. If there is an inversion situation the odor is trapped all day long and often for multiple days in a row. If a coastal (usually west or southwest) breezes picks up that typically evacuates the odor. But meanwhile it is extremely offensive to be outside for any reason (yard work walking etc.).	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
20	23-Feb-2023	1. Request for third-party audit of materials accepted at the landfill	SWAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
21	23-Feb-2023	2. how often is ash from the Covanta plant used as ADC. Is fly ash mixed with bottom ash? How does Republic ensure that it doesn't dry up and blow around? Would Republic be willing to foot the bill so that neighbors to the north of the landfill can be sure that their wells are safe? Has Republic done, or would they do a flyover of the landfill to find out how much the landfill is actually outgassing? What can we do to make sure that there isn't a cancer cluster around the landfill?; (Written Comment)	SWAC Meeting	Written comment	Republic Services provided a presentation about Covanta Ash at the 4/27/22 DSAC meeting.
22	25-Feb-2023	I smelled (and am smelling) the odor of composting or of landfill garbage when I go outside in my property.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
23	25-Feb-2023	Took dog for a walk this morning my mouth still tastes funny airways hurt.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
24	25-Feb-2023	Sunny clear day after the recent stormy weather. Slight north wind. OK until mid-day when the odor from the landfill permeated our airshed.	DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
25	26-Feb-2023	4/11/23 - Email to commissioners received from Jeff Thoman on 2/26/23 at 8:13pm, forwarded by Jen Brown to Daniel Redick on 2/27/23 at 6:49am. Here is the email contents (pictures and captions not included). Photos show trash debris on the road, and a specific truck, referenced as the truck releasing the litter (License Plate HV 04556, Truck #5308): Hello Republic Services and Benton County Commissioners, Today while driving my Grandson home to Salem we were driving up Highway 99 when a Semi Sized Truck pulled out from Coffin Butte 1-2 cars ahead of us and to my horror the truck spewed trash all the way to Rickreall before pulling onto Highway 22. My question is what is Republics	Written comment	Email	Daniel responded

		<p>Accountability to this pollution? Are They Fined?</p> <p>Do they pick-up up trash on their own dime without passing the cost to consumers? As we all can see that the roadside is extremely littered in both directions from Coffin Butte and it is clear this is driven by poor trash containment by both Republic or its customers. This needs to improve.</p>			
26	26-Feb-2023	<p>Constant odor from coffin butte landfill that continues to occur more frequently and for days at a time. I wake up and open my door to a crisp mornnng covered with snow and immediately am smacked with odor from landfill (NOT the compost). It is more than discouraging and I am concerned about health risk and ground water as I have a well.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	DUPLICATE COMPLAINT
27	26-Feb-2023	<p>I was biking past the landfill on Coffin Butte Road when I immediately encountered a strong landfill/chemical odor. It seemed to be more intense than usual perhaps due to prevailing winds. I've gone to the landfill many times so I'm aware of the smell of "garbage". This odor seemed to be sharper than the usual "garbage smell" leading me to wonder what the chemical components of it were. It also makes me wonder why a private corporation should have the right to pollute our air with these types of emissions in a neighborhood that has a significant number of families. When people smell odors from the landfill we are essentially being treated as guinea pigs by Republic Services and DEQ. You are allowing them to put chemical compounds into our bodies with unknown cumulative risks. I would like to understand how DEQ permits this to happen and what evidence you have to show the impacts are completely benign.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	No location or other information in this complaint.
28	26-Feb-2023	<p>classic local weather situation in Soap Creek Valley that gives rise (pun intended) to hideous odors. Early morning fog which gradually burns off. As it starts to lift usually around 9-11 am it draws air from the north which is the airshed around Coffin Butte Landfill. If there is an inversion situation the odor is trapped all day long and often for multiple days in a row.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	
29	26-Feb-2023	<p>This has become a serious problem in 2022-2023 and I have experienced extreme atmospheric odors many many times. I have not reported all of them online it's simply not realistic to drop everything and complete an online form. I have experienced this for many years of living in Soap Creek Valley including before the online form so most of these problems were not reported.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	
30	27-Feb-2023	<p>4/12/23 - Anne Fairbothor sent the BOC the following email on 2/27/23 with a complaint regarding collection services after a snow storm, and the communication. Commissioner Augerot responded on 2/27/23,</p> <p>I live in Pioneer Village, just off of Hwy 34 near</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel responded

		<p>Decker Road. Our regularly scheduled garbage pickup day is Thursday, and glass is picked up the last Thursday of the month. Last week - Feb 23 - was the last Thursday of February. Because of the snowstorm, we did not get our garbage or glass picked up. Republic Services never contacted us to let us know if/when they would make up the missed service.</p> <p>I called them today (Feb 27). As usual, the number for the Corvallis office rolled over to the Republic Services Call Center in Nevada. The only thing the woman there could do for me was to schedule a missed pickup - just for me. The 3 big blue trucks plus the smaller glass truck would drive out here to pick up my garbage but would not stop at my neighbor's houses. There are about 50 houses here in Pioneer Village, so it makes no sense for all 50 of us to call individually for missed pickup service.</p> <p>I was told that we can put out extra garbage bags this Thursday and that they will pick them up for no extra charge because of the missed service. But we will have to wait a month, until the end of March for glass pickup!</p> <p>My complaints are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of any communication from Republic Services about the missed pickup day. 2. Having to individually ask for a "missed pickup" and not being able to do that for the entire Village. 3. Needing to wait A MONTH for the next glass pickup. 4. Inability to talk to our local office. <p>Thank you for keeping this problem in mind when you negotiate service with Republic. I feel like we are overcharged and neglected. Not what I expect from a monopoly service with government oversight.</p>			
3 1	16- Mar- 2023	Same as above Becoming more and more frequent practically daily. It's horrible. I've lived here almost 40 years so am aware of occasional odor but this so consistent and damages way of life let alone what is going into ground water or gases in the air. Health major concern. I can't even submit daily for as often as this strong odor is present from minute I open my door in morning and now gets into the house.	DEQ	Written comment	
3 2	18- Mar- 2023	The landfill odors have been getting stronger and more frequent over the last several months. The smell is overpowering when I walk out of my door in the morning when it is really bad. The problem seems to be getting worse not better.	DEQ	Written comment	
3 3	23- Mar- 2023	1. concerns the landfill causes nearby residents cancer. (Written comment)	SWAC Meeting	Written comment	Unknown

3 4	23- Mar- 2023	Paul (resident and subcommittee member): He resigns from the sub due to how his wife, Nancy, was dismissed. He offered criticism of the facilitator, including statements about his unprofessional behavior and overall engagement. He notes that Nancy brought a lot of experience to the workgroup, and yet she was dismissed because of her hard work. (For the full statement, please see Appendix B and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Members thanked Paul for his service and accepted his resignation
3 5	23- Mar- 2023	Chris Workmen – (Philomath city manager): He notes the Republic has an exclusive contract with the city of Philomath, and that they do great work. He encourages the County to continue to see Republic as a partner to continue working with for community development. He also notes some concerns about timing and the report coming out. It would be problematic if the County waits to decide on the expansion until all the research and discussion is done. All development has adverse impacts, but you try to mitigate them. It is harder to do this than just saying no, but it would help a lot of people. . (For the full statement, please see Appendix B and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	None, this was public comment at a meeting
3 6	23- Mar- 2023	(resident and former BCTT member): He is sorry to see Paul going and would like to thank him for his role and hard work. He has a few questions for Darren: What did he mean when he said “many important things are happening behind the scenes” at the Board of Commissioners meeting, and when is this BCTT finally going to finish? . (For the full statement, please see Appendix B and the meeting recording provided on the project website.)	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Meeting discussion	Meeting discussion
3 7	23- Mar- 2023	Linda (certified soil scientist, works in waste management, served 10 years on SWAC, resident): She makes several points, including that functioning solid waste management is essential for a County to function, SWMS needed for a county to function, Republic has been a reliable partner to the County, and climates like ours requires special needs that Republic has provided. She also notes that the BCTT moniker was a mistake because it gives a humorous and unprofessional impression.	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	None, this was public comment at a meeting
3 8	23- Mar- 2023	He appreciates that everyone, to some extent, is coming together. The County and Republic seem to be coming to the table, and he hopes more people can come to the table to help move forward. After all, the County will not stop making trash anytime soon.	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	None, this was public comment at a meeting
3 9	23- Mar- 2023	I think many of the neighbors feel like we've already given enormous amounts of input that really wasn't appreciated or accepted and I just want to give one example. First I was going to say I was biking by the landfill last night at 8:30 at	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	None, this was public comment at a meeting

		<p>night as I've done hundreds of times before. I smelled the smell coming off the dump on Highway 99, a strong smell and I thought about getting home and sending another report to DVQ to complain about it, but my last report about six weeks ago, I specifically asked for follow-up from DVQ as I've done in previous occasions, I've gotten nothing. As far as I'm concerned, there's no accountability on the part of DVQ. I would like to know if there was air monitoring ever done to know what chemicals are going in my body when I routinely breathe, start coming off the landfill. I'd also like to point my letter to the editor on Tuesday. It was published at the exact time. I'm not sure how to submit that, but I just bring to attention to the public, the PFAS chemicals, which are almost certainly in the effluent from the landfill and are being essentially dumped in the [inaudible 00:14:40] River to the downstream drinking water communities. The issue I wanted to share most with you today is when I first got involved in this in July of 2019, a neighbor alerted me about this expansion of landfill. There was a little public notice I eventually found, and it said that Coffin Butte would be vacated not the road, it said Coffin Butte. It also said that the road would be rerouted and you read this notice and you go, oh, it's no big deal. They're closing part of the landfill. They're going to reroute the road. I think that's part of the problem here. As many neighbors, if they were even aware of that notice, had no idea what was going on so my subsequent communication with the county staff, I just received a whole lot of pushback. They would not publish an amended notice to let people know that that was factually incorrect and that's kind of been the process I've experienced all along is my emails don't get answered. I brought this to the attention of commissioners way back, never get any answers. It's just been incredibly frustrating because these processes just seem designed to exclude the average citizen. I know I've exceeded my time, but thank you for your service and thanks for considering my input.</p>			
40	23-Mar-2023	<p>During the prior CUP within my comments to the planning commission, I stated the expansion cannot only be about the money. Unfortunately, it become more and more obvious it is only about the money. As I raised before why wasn't any due diligence completed prior to our commissioner signing the 2020 landfill franchise agreement. The 2020 landfill franchise agreement, it's big business. Big business that warranted one, a professional cost benefit analysis of hosting a regional landfill, a professional independent environmental impact study covering environmental impacts to date and the future environmental impacts of hosting</p>	<p>Public comment received in BCTT meeting</p>	<p>Public testimony</p>	<p>None, this was public comment at a meeting</p>

		<p>a regional landfill. BCTT suggests this in the future. Third, the Sustainable Materials Management Plan, which BCTT also suggests in the future. In the future does not provide answers now. Please work group where appropriate please consider this during polling. After the prior CUP was withdrawn, I individually invited each of our commissioners to participate in public outreach with a small group. I felt we needed their help in opposing any landfill expansion. I can tell you all we received is pushback. Our Benton County commissioners, Benton County staff and Republic Services all want an expansion. Benton County doesn't need an expansion. Don't the residents of Benton County deserve due diligence in the decision making process? I would argue we do. How can this process of considering expansion not include due diligence? It appears Benton County commissioners are only concerned about the money and due diligence may get in the way of their discretionary cash flow. We're a group. We're appropriate. Please consider all of this in your polling. Please. Commissioners, Benton County residents deserve better. Do the due diligence before moving forward. Thank you.</p>			
4 1	23- Mar- 2023	<p>I used to be on the work group. I wasn't going to say anything, but on the occasion of the consideration of LU21047, the previous landfill expansion proposal that was proposed in July of 2021, one of the local opponents of that who spoke at the planning commission meeting name was Cat Newsheller. We got news two days ago that Cat had died after a long battle with cancer. There was a lot of cancer in the neighborhood around the landfill and that was one of the issues that the Planning Commission identified as being a question that they would like to have answered before there was a decision on whether to increase the size of the landfill. Landfills are not safe. That's becoming more and more clear. They don't ever discover new chemicals that are good chemicals. There are only worse chemicals and some of those chemicals are now being spread on our agricultural lands. There was even a recent CNN article about how people who live near landfills should have their blood tested for PFAS. Landfills are specifically called out as a danger for people who live nearby and no amount of money is going to bring Cat back and this is a question that really needs to be answered. It was if I had remained on the work group, I would've tried to bring it to the attention of the members. I was not in retrospect so it's really great to not be on the work group before because you guys worked really hard so thank you for that, but keep in mind that real people's lives may be at risk and</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

		this is an unanswered question. Thank you very much.			
4 2	23- Mar- 2023	<p>As a concerned resident of Benton County that travels up Highway 99 regularly. I'm concerned about the rapid increase of landfill since Riverbend Landfill closed in McMinnville and I've been following the BCTT since its beginning. And by the way, thank you all I know the hundreds of hours you've spent. What I have learned during this process is that the county gave up its legal leverage to negotiate with Republic Services when it signed that 10 year landfill franchise lease in 2020. We are all in this together, the public, Republic Services, and the county to figure out how to keep the landfill from encroaching on farmland, from driving away neighbors who bought their property when Coffin Butte was smaller, significantly smaller and slated for closure in about the year 2000. So I was a little alarmed when I read the story in the Gazette Times this morning that there was a legal liability over the petition, which I as a Benton County resident have helped circulate. And let me read you the wording in the petition it says we need a plan, not a bigger landfill. By signing this position, we're telling the commissioners to oppose any expansion of Coffin Butte landfill before Benton County completes a thorough detailed waste management plan that focuses on future resilience and includes alternatives for decreasing and redistributing materials from the waste stream. So there is no legal ramification for the county to have a position that opposes landfill expansion. They have legal restrictions regarding approval of a conditional use permit, but we as concerned residents want to hear the county be responsible for what goes into the dump and work hard with Republic Services through whatever leverage they can afford at this point, to pull things out of the waste stream, to increase the recycling markets, to do the things that we've taken time and effort to spell out in the solid waste materials Plan RFP that's due to be released. But anyway, thank you all. Work hard. We've got to stop this juggernaut, there's more to trash management than expanding the landfill. Thank you.</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting
4 3	23- Mar- 2023	<p>I'm concerned that issues around PFAS are not addressed in the report. Leachate is included in CUPR 13, but only its impact on water, not soil. In addition to PFAS-laced leachate making its way into the Willamette River, potentially PFAS-laced bio solids are being applied as a soil amendment at the Soap Creek branch, including where cattle currently graze and on the Carson homestead. This is where the Leticia Carson Legacy Project hopes to someday have an organic farm celebrating Leticia's legacy as a</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

		<p>Oregon Black pioneer. These are two amongst many concerns I have about the BTCC work group process and report. Whose responsibility is it to ensure impacted people's voices are heard? The process has become so inside baseball that I can't understand it despite having tried to follow the proceedings. Community engagement is when you meet people where they are, not where you are. I ask you to please consider the impacts on the many people who are unable to engage in your process as you pull on this report and its recommendations. Thank you.</p>			
4 4	23- Mar- 2023	<p>Mark, a longtime resident of Benton County. I work in Monmouth, so I drive up 99 across Adair Village, up 99 regularly. I've always thought of the news but I never really was that educated about the landfill until I got involved with writing the history of the landfill as part of the Benton County talks trash process. So I wanted to provide, while I am able to submit things as a member statement, I feel like those are just going to become another part of the huge pile of paper. So I wanted to give a little bit of oral testimony to my perspective and concerns regarding this process. One thing I want to start by saying is as we wrote the history which was largely drafted by Marge Pop, myself, with a lot of input from Ginger who is really a great help in many ways. One of the things that is really clear is while Republic's representative was as reasonable as you could ever expect, reaching consensus meant that we did not include things that we feel the public ought to know about. We did take very seriously the drive for consensus, but in the end when I look back on it, I realize consensus really means veto power. For specific areas I want to highlight that we would perhaps have done better if we had submitted a separate report rather than the consensus report of history we did. Five points. One, history of fires and fire risk. We feel were significantly downplayed. It's hard to do justice to some of that stuff, but conversations with people that were fire officials locally, it's pretty clear that there's a greater danger there than was first apparent or that we included in the history. Secondly, the significance for public services corporate decision making in increasing annual deposits that the landfill should have been developed more. In since it's the increased use of the land creates deposits in the landfill that are forcing the county to accept the south expansion, which created a greater incentive for Republic to negotiate for southward expansion and to incentivize it for the county board. I really expanded on the physical transformation of the area as lands on its trucks and lights have really transformed the Coffin Butte area from an almost bucolic area that I once knew 30 years</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

		<p>ago to really a full-fledged industrial zone. I go there different times a day, always the big trucks moving, litter sometimes from the trucks. But just the most important thing is as I drove down from Salem just yesterday, you can see that landfill from very far away over on Independence Road, which is not highway 99, but two miles to the east. Two other broader concerns I want to raise, one is while the immediate previous decision was not perhaps conducted properly and the public, and perhaps some officials, were not well-informed of the process or the basic information concerning the expansion negotiations and the proposal that was withdrawn last year for expansion. Many of those who were involved did understand the nature of the issues and I think you can view this process as essentially redo of a decision that perhaps was valid to begin with. And finally, my last point, in the bigger picture, this process seems to ignore the core values of Benton County 2040 Thriving Communities initiative. There should be direct consideration of whether the expansion of landfill helps create the Benton County that we envision for 2040 and that has not come up anywhere. We don't have a committee regarding environment or quality of life. We have ones on economics and things like that. Thank you</p>			
4 5	23- Mar- 2023	<p>I'm a North Benton County resident as a former Air Force pilot and evaluator with a civil engineering degree and a master's of public administration, a community board member and Adair Village rental property owner and a mother of three young children, I've spent years taking input from those under my responsibility to ensure health, safety, and quality of life. Many times each year, and particularly in the winter months, we are affected at our house and while the children are attending school in Adair Village by an oppressive stench, not what is coming from the PRC but one that affects our daily living and activities coming from the landfill. It causes headaches, eye irritation, and throat burning, which limits our outdoor activities and often makes me concerned for the safety of the children at the school transiting between classroom buildings, during outdoor recess, and during sports practice. In addition, the landfill leachate deposited daily at the Corvallis Wastewater treatment plant, which passes through the Municipal treatment System without additional treatment. The abnormal panel of toxins is released into the Willamette River mere miles prior to Adair Village's drinking water intake source. The Adair Village water treatment plant operates well within its required duties to treat river water prior to consumption. My grave concern is that many of the toxins deposited into the source water are not accounted for, treated,</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

		<p>or even tested for at this point. Both the air quality and water quality bring me concern for the safety of the tenants under our responsibility, my own children and their classmates and teachers, and the growing population of Adair Village. It is the charge of county government to ensure the health and safety of the Benton County residents to whom they are responsible and to ensure current and future livability of Benton County. I implore you as the Trash Talks work group to do everything in your power to ensure we account for all potential current and future impacts of our resident landfill prior to contemplating any future expansion. Have you seen and studied results of local air quality tests? Residual environmental toxin tests? And have proof that the drinking water of Adair village does not contain PCB, PFAS, and other chemical toxins not normally tested for in municipal water sources? If not, we need to ensure that the entirety of the sustainable materials management plan is completed prior to any expansion approval to ensure the safety of all Benton County residents. Thank you again for all of your time and efforts. We appreciate the immense efforts that have gone into this process.</p>			
4 6	23- Mar- 2023	<p>So interestingly, if you were to take one day's accumulation of trash at the landfill, which is what, 10 hours of dropping trash? And you compress it into a 60 second time period, you would have six seconds of time where trash was coming from Benton County. The remainder 54 seconds, and if you want we can sit through this, the remainder 54 seconds is coming from outside of Benton County and that's amazing. What's interesting too about that is that six seconds is costing Benton County so much headache and so much time, but we're getting so little benefit from it. And so the fear factors of oh, we're going to close the dump and it's going to cost you a fortune. The reality is they are making so much money on everybody else and very little on Benton County and why are we spending so much time is because Benton County is making a whole bunch of money from that six seconds of trash. Anyway, it's just a perspective that I think is interesting to kind of think about is that so much of all of this headache that is going to live in Benton County forever and ever and ever is really only a small fraction of what Benton County is actually creating. Thank you.</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

4 7	23- Mar- 2023	<p>I'm a North Benton County resident and I want to second just about everything everybody else has said prior to my speaking. I am opposed to the county moving forward on any expansion of the landfill at any level until there is an authentic citizen approved plan to manage solid waste. An authentic citizenry approved plan would include all the stakeholders, especially the neighbors who remain at risk for water, air, and ground pollution. For me, the county's motto "at your service" has come to me as "at Republic's Service" and not the citizens of the county. With all the perils risk and damages already identified and submitted over the past 18 months, how can you in good conscience proceed to consider anything less than a comprehensive and substantive future oriented plan? This plan needs to include specifics on how the county will finally hold Republic services accountable for the damages that are ongoing. Instead of spending \$80,000 on a process facilitator, why aren't we getting the state-of-the-art and world-class, 21st century strategies for all the municipalities using the landfill? Other communities with landfills are facing or have faced these same dilemmas. It seems to me the county staff are more diligent in preserving the funding stream than responsibly responding to the very real concerns of the citizens who pay their taxes. If the latest identification of PFAS being dumped into the Willamette River isn't enough to change your direction, then I invite you to go down to the water treatment outflow and take a long drink day after day just as those downstream have to. I'm not a scientist or a specialist, I'm a human being who wants the smarts of scientists and specialists to be integrated into any plan. This is all part of the changes needed to impact our climate concerns and seven generations henceforth. Thank you</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting
4 8	3-Apr- 2023	<p>First I want to thank all the neighbors, committee members, county employees, and others involved in tackling this important issue. Looking through the vast amount of documentation that has been gathered, I'm impressed with the effort made. And these times I think we need to work together to deal with things that impact us all on a personal local level. My husband and I have been residents of the Sub Creek Valley for 33 years. Last year when Republic Services submitted their conditional use permit application, we joined with other neighbors concerned by many aspects of the proposal and hoped that having a facilitator and work group dedicated to examining the issues we would be productive. Perhaps I placed a little too much faith in the process. And it wasn't until a recent survey came out that I started really examining the website and information presented there. I</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

		<p>have already written an email to voice my concerns about the survey and related issues and sent it yesterday. So perhaps you've already had a chance to see it. However, I did want to make a few more comments about this process. First, I want to remind you that there are more people impacted by the landfill and its current and future activities than just a group of disgruntled neighbors crying, not in my backyard. The issue of solid waste management, whether it is household, industrial, hazardous, medical, or recycled waste, is a worldwide concern. On some levels it is very complex and expensive. Yet the long-term benefits of dealing with these issues sooner rather than later can make a huge difference in our neighborhood, our state, our world. In that vein, I notice you've included a statement honoring the Kalapuya tribe and the acknowledgement of there having been here long before the settlers came to this area. I believe that many native spiritual values honor the earth, the plants and animals, the seasons and other elements of this beautiful world that we share and consider them sacred. You cannot find documentation suggesting any input from the nearby tribes into this process and would really have appreciated seeing some. Perhaps it's not too late. Thank you for this opportunity to speak.</p>			
49	3-Apr-2023	<p>It appears to be setting the stage for not just one but multiple expansions. Did you notice in one of the last recommendations that you voted on just before dinner, you referred to expansions in the plural. How did that get in there and in whose interest is that? Thanks to a recent public records request by a community member who spoke earlier, we now know that some important information that is missing from the history section of the report that you really should have heard about at the start of this process, but you were informed of. She referred to a February 2019 memo between county council and an outside attorney, which mentions purchase of additional property as one of the county's goals in upcoming negotiations with Republic. Following up on that in October 2020, Republic mentioned to county council they have many more acres that will hold waste, not just local south of Coffin Butte Road. So they have still more expansions in mind beyond the one we've all been expecting and the county knows that.</p> <p>This is about setting the stage for landfill expansions on top of landfill expansions. During the neighborhood tour, a couple of us tried to point out how the current landfill is already creating blight. We've talked about how this has led to being properties being bought out and added to allow further sprawl of this massive operation. We like to talk about sustainability</p>	Public comment received in BCTT meeting	Public testimony	Acknowledged at meeting

		<p>here in Benton County, but this is about as far from sustainable as you can get. I can't blame Republic, this is their business model, but our county shouldn't be complicit and neither should you. So as you continue to vote on these topics, please bear in mind that you're not just being asked to set the table for a single expansion. This is about multiple continued expansions.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>			
50	3-Apr-2023	<p>It has recently come to light through a Freedom of Information Act request to Benton County that as early as 2020, our county attorney, Vance Crony, was discussing possibilities for largescale expansions of the Coffin Butte Landfill south of Coffin Butte Road with Republic Services local representative, Julie Jackson. The gist of this email exchange that took place between 11:23 and 11:51 AM on October 14, 2020 is presented below. The full transcript was submitted for the record to the BentonCountyTalksTrash email address this afternoon at 1:44 PM.</p>	Email	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
51	11-Apr-2023	<p>1) Republic not emptying yard debris containers when scheduled; containers only get emptied when he calls to report container has not been emptied. 2) He has requested, and Republic has promised to, replace his damaged recyclables container. The container has not been replaced.</p>	Benton County	Written comment	Waste Services
52	17-Apr-2023	<p>I was cycling past the landfill when I encountered strong odors coming from the dump. As explained above I've experienced this hundreds of times over the years. I would like to know the specifics of your air monitoring/testing. How do you ensure that the fly ash used for the daily cover material does not become airborne? Have you tested the fly ash (which comes from the Covanta facility one that processes many types of hazardous material)? What trace organic compounds are in the landfill emissions? How much methane and other gases am I being exposed to? Are there any long-term health impacts associated with these emissions/pollutants? I would like answers to these questions.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	DUPLICATE COMPLAINT
53	27-Apr-2023	<p>1. Concern about landfill methane emissions (written comment).</p>	DSAC Meeting	Written comment	Unknown
54	27-Apr-2023	<p>2. Concern about landfill-related traffic (written comment).</p>	DSAC Meeting	Written comment	Unknown
55	1-May-2023	<p>Each day I smell landfill gases of different intensities. Today the odor is so strong that I don't want to expose myself to the gases. I am a cancer survivor and have a compromised immune system</p>	DEQ	Written comment	
56	1-May-2023	<p>The usual -- see my previously submitted descriptions or those of my many neighbors.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	

5 7	20- May- 2023	landfill odor increasing from coffin butte	DEQ	Written comment	
5 8	22- May- 2023	<p>Hi Daniel,</p> <p>There have been a number of landfill-related issues to report this week. Here is a short list. Since DSAC is still not meeting in its function to provide a forum for local residents to reports incidents and to promote a dialog with the landfill operator on addressing these problems, I am cc:ing Julie Jackson on this so that she can direct these complaints to the responsible individuals in the company.</p> <p>1. Garbage flying out of truck on way to landfill:</p> <p>Today (5/22/20123) at 6:21 AM a northbound Republic Services truck with a large construction-type dumpster was shedding plastic bags along Hwy 99W, near the south end of Arboretum Road. After seeing at least 5 bags fly out as I approached the truck (I was headed southbound), I gave a horn blast in an attempt to alert the driver to what was happening, but the driver just kept going north at highway speed.</p> <p>That truck would have arrived at the scale house within a few minutes (by 6:25 AM) so perhaps scale-house records could be used to follow up with the driver. Though this type of thing happens regularly, and this is not the only Republic driver failing to secure a load, so preferably the company will take more systematic action in training drivers and checking that the load-covering systems are functioning properly.</p> <p>2. Blown tire from garbage truck left in lane of travel</p> <p>Earlier last week (I did not note the date or time but VLI phone logs should have a record of this, I think it was 5/17), a southbound Republic Services truck (the type used for residential garbage pickup) blew the tread off its tire right in front of our house. It made a tremendously loud bang like a bomb going off. I looked outside in time to see the truck which had slowed down in front of our neighbors' house to the south, but then it sped up again and left the scene.</p> <p>When I ran out there I found a full tire tread was left out on the roadway, in the lane of travel for passenger cars which were having to go into the left-hand lane to avoid it, so posing a hazard for regular traffic on this highway. I dragged the tread out of the lane of travel and onto the</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.

shoulder, then immediately called VLI's office to report the incident.

After that I had to run some errands in town, and noticed that there was a trail of shredded strips of rubber – many with sharp wires projecting – all along the southbound shoulder of the road as far as the south end of Arboretum Road. The county (or ODOT?) just recently run a street-sweeper along the highway, and over the weekend I had also seen a local volunteer out picking up trash near the south end of Arboretum Road, so this was new debris. Since the shoulder of Hwy 99W also functions as a bicycle lane, this type of debris poses a hazard to bicyclists.

Someone did come out and pick up the main section of tread by the time I returned from town, so thank you to whoever did that. However they didn't pick up the long trail of tire fragments along the shoulder to the south.

Tire blowouts are also fairly common thing with trucks heading to and from the landfill. If this were to happen while a truck is passing a bicyclist or pedestrian along the highway, there could be a severe injury or even fatality. Republic Services, VLI, and the various commercial haulers should be more responsible in checking that truck tires are properly inflated and in good condition, and that trucks are not overloaded, since those conditions contribute to blowouts.

There should also be driver training on what to do in the event of a blowout. There can be no doubt that this driver noticed the enormously loud explosion, so they should have stopped to address the problem (removing the hazard from the roadway and changing out the blown tire to avoid creating further hazards). Does Republic's company culture promote responsible behavior in such situations? Or are drivers so worried about keeping to their schedule, that they feel pressure to keep rolling?

3. Dump odor event on Saturday

Saturday morning was a bad one for sulfurous landfill stench in Soap Creek Valley. I happened to be over there for a project monitoring endangered grassland birds, and noticed it as I was driving home, even with the windows rolled up. There were also visible clouds of dust coming off the landfill from the tipping area. I have filed an odor complaint with DEQ.

4. Garbage left exposed in tipping area after Saturday

		<p>A wide patch of garbage on the south face of the landfill was left uncovered after operating hours on Saturday evening, and all day Sunday. This was clearly visible from half a mile away on Camp Adair Road.</p> <p>Leaving garbage uncovered outside of operating hours is a problem not only in terms of odor, but also because it attracts scavengers. On Sunday I counted 14 ravens and 4 eagles scavenging in the exposed garbage. Ravens are nest predators for many songbirds including grassland birds such as meadowlarks, and eagles prey on Great Blue Heron nestlings (possibly a factor that led to failure of the heron rookery on VLI property last May).</p> <p>Again, this is a recurring problem, though not always reported. I believe it is out of compliance with the conditions of approval for VLI's operating license, so we should expect better diligence from VLI/Republic on this.</p> <p>I'll appreciate if you can add these items to the record of landfill-related issues.</p> <p>Thanks, Joel Geier North Benton County resident and landfill neighbor</p>			
59	25-May-2023	1. Concern landfill is approaching maximum annual tonnage allowed	SWAC Meeting	Written comment	Unknown
60	6-Jul-2023	Complainant called hotline to report strong odor from Republic landfill in Benton Co. (Coffin Butte) stating that odor is very strong and offensive smells like hot garbage making it impossible to be outside for any period of time. Complainant requested that a complaint be logged but did not request to be contacted.	DEQ	Written comment	
61	11-Jul-2023	Coffin Butte Landfill not accepting cash	Benton County	Phone	Benton County notified Republic Services, requested further investigation

6 2	11-Jul-2023	Coffin Butte Landfill not accepting cash, after passing of SB 1565	Benton County	Written comment	Landfill Service
6 3	26-Jul-2023	<p>Joel Geier emailed on 7/26/23 saying that intermittent "clangs" and banging is occurring on the near the property below, south of the landfill gas to energy plant. The sounds were heard in roughly 15 minute increments on 7/24, 7/25, 7/26 from 8am through early afternoon. Erin Bradley (Bit By Bit) emailed on 7/27/23 and said "The repeated intermittent pounding is causing stress on our animals, staff, and clients who are working with large animals." MAPTAXLOT: 104180001200 Tax Account: 005888 Assessment Map: 10418 Owner: VALLEY LANDFILLS INC Situs Address: 29160 COFFIN BUTTE RD CORVALLIS 97330</p> <p>Joel Geier emailed again on 9/6/23 saying that the loud noises were apparently fro a drilling rig on the east side of the landfill, and that there was an unobstructed path for noise to travel from that point to the complainant's properties (email includes map/diagram attachment). Joel's complaint states that inadequate screening is causing noise to travel, and that it violates CUP conditions, and requested screening for corrective action. Joel also requests that the landfill operator notify neighboring residents in instances of high noise impacts, similar to Knife River's notification practices.</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
6 4	27-Jul-2023	1. Concern about details of collected and shared data associated with the landfill and PRC in annual reports: Accuracy of waste county-of-origin data, C&D data is not separately reported/recorded for all vehicle types at the landfill, too little detail for vehicle data, leachate hauling data, and gravel truck hauling data (written comment, also presented at 8/24/23 DSAC meeting).	DSAC Meeting	Meeting, and written comment	Unknown
6 5	27-Jul-2023	2. Concern about landfill impacts on nearby heron rookery.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
6 6	27-Jul-2023	3. Concern about landfill annual report data - tonnage accuracy.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
6 7	27-Jul-2023	4. Concern about high arsenic levels reported in monitoring wells in the landfill annual report.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
6 8	27-Jul-2023	5. Concern about landfill annual report data - PRC runoff not included.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown

69	2-Aug-2023	<p>Complaint:Redacted per ORS 192.355(4) Confidential Submissions Coffin Butte receive a waste stream from Hollingsworth and Vose Fiber Co. called Microglass Fiber. The fine particulate dust is packaged in supersacks that comes to the landfill in a roll off box. When the roll off box is dumped out the heavy supersacks explode when they hit the ground and the fine particulate dust becomes air born. Here is a 30-second video clip from about 2 years ago. Hollingsworth and Vose microglass fiber. All “contained” within bags at the start, as it should be... but then no effort is made by Republic to assure the bags don’t burst wide open (as they do here) sending the contents airborne.</p> <p>https://www.coffinbuttefacts.org/wp-content/uploads/page/gallery/hollingsworth-and-vose-microglass-fiber-being-dumped-at-coffin-butte-landfill.mp4</p>	DEQ	Written comment	
70	24-Aug-2023	1. Concern landfill is approaching maximum annual tonnage allowed, concern DEQ solid waste disposal reports filed by Coffin Butte Landfill are shorter than previous years (written comment).	DSAC Meeting	Written comment	Unknown
71	24-Aug-2023	2. Concern landfill impacts on nearby heron rookery.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
72	24-Aug-2023	3. Concern about landfill methane emissions.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
73	24-Aug-2023	4. Concern that reported landfill capacity is not accurate.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
74	24-Aug-2023	5. Concern about landfill methane emissions.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
75	24-Aug-2023	6. Concern about materials accepted at the landfill, recommending a characterization of accepted materials.	DSAC Meeting	Meeting	Unknown
76	14-Sep-2023	Joel emailed on 9/14/23 that he was concerned about "medical wastes like syringes to body parts and other kinds of biohazard risks" referenced in the GT article on 9/14/23.	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.

7 7	14- Sep- 2023	<p style="text-align: center;">Hi Daniel,</p> <p>Some information here and a few questions: An article in today's Corvallis Gazette-Times has the following statement attributed to Jacob Stallings, attorney for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 701:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"Stallings said welfare negotiations are crucial, especially with recent exposures at the Coffin Butte Landfill, from medical wastes like syringes to body parts and other kinds of biohazard risks."</p> <p>I suppose that the mention of "body parts" refers to the most recent grisly incident where the remains of a murder victim from Clackamas County were found during a search by Oregon City police, and perhaps also the incident a year earlier, involving a murder victim from Washington county.</p> <p>Both of those incidents were widely reported, but I don't think the incidents involving illegal medical waste have been reported, though they should be reported by the landfill operators.</p> <p>Concerns over such waste were among the reasons why SWAC and DSAC members (prior to the suspension of both, and the eventual dissolution of SWAC by the county commissioners) had been calling for an audit of waste coming to the landfill from out-of-county.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">So here are my questions:</p> <p>Question 1: Has Benton County received any notification of prohibited medical wastes such as syringes being found recently at Coffin Butte Landfill?</p> <p>This issue might become more acute with the passage of Oregon Senate Bill 488, which was passed and signed into law by Governor Tina Kotek at the end of the last session. See e.g. https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/politics/2023/06/07/covanta-marion-municipal-waste-incinerator-emissions-oregon-senate-bill-488/70279139007/</p> <p>Question 2: Recently you mentioned an "inspection" of the landfill that you were trying to schedule with the landfill operators. What was the focus of that inspection, did it happen, and what did you find?</p> <p>Question 3: Has Valley Landfills Inc. (or Republic Services) delivered their 2022 Annual Report on the landfill to the county, and if so, can you please make that publicly available on the county's solid-waste management web page? Question 4: Did Valley Landfills Inc. (or Republic Services) share their 2022 Annual</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
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		<p>Environmental Monitoring Report (as filed with Oregon DEQ) with Benton County, and again, if so, can you please make that publicly available on the county's solid-waste management web page?</p> <p>Although some of these questions should properly be taken up by DSAC, I note that DSAC still seems to be suspended de facto, as there have been no meetings in over a year, and no meeting is yet scheduled for September.</p> <p>So please consider these as questions from a concerned Benton County resident and landfill neighbor, whose legitimate interests are currently not being represented by a Disposal Site Advisory Committee, despite the clear stipulations of Oregon statute.</p> <p>Thanks and all the best, Joel</p>			
7 8	27- Sep- 2023	<p>Joel Geier sent Daniel Redick the following complaint via email "An Adair Village resident, Lisa Mathis, informed me on September 24th that she is hearing heavy equipment operating on top of the landfill in early morning hours, starting around 1 am or 2 am. She says that this has become a regular occurrence in recent months. Her residence is more than 1.8 miles from the landfill.</p> <p>According to the conditions of approval for the 2003 CUP, the hours of operation for the landfill are supposed to be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays.</p> <p>Benton County CDD has previously received complaints about pre-dawn operations from neighbors who live closer to the landfill. Now that you have a complaint that this ongoing violation of the 2003 CUP conditions is impacting residents in Adair Village at distances of up to nearly 2 miles.</p> <p>Please register this as an additional complaint. It is related to the previous complaint, as the problem arises from rapid growth in height of the landfill without adequate screening."</p> <p>Daniel emailed a response on 9/28/23, noting receipt of the complaint.</p> <p>Taxlot: 105130001000 Tax Account: 021463 Assessment Map: 10513 Owner: VALLEY LANDFILLS INC Situs Address: 28845 COFFIN BUTTE RD CORVALLIS 97330</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
7 9	28- Sep- 2023	"overpowering and pervasive to my nostrils and eyes"	Forwarded to RS from DEQ	Written comment	Not reported

80	1-Oct-2023	I went outside to eat dinner with my family and immediately recognized the smell coming from the Coffin Butte Landfill. It was overpowering and pervasive to my nostrils and also my eyes. Almost immediately I got a headache and had to think about my breathing.	DEQ	Written comment	
81	6-Oct-2023	Concern about hazardous materials accepted at landfill via commercial waste collection, concern about hurdles and inaction in complaint process (written comment, duplicate of email complaint received by Benton County)	Benton County	Email	Complainant filed complaints with DEQ, DEQ responded during BCTT process
82	6-Oct-2023	Hazardous materials accepted in garbage collection from commercial facilities	Benton County	Written comment	Waste Services
83	6-Oct-2023	10/6/22 - Doug emailed the following concerns: "Over the past ~15 years, I've also documented a large number of violations concerning waste in Corvallis school dumpsters. This includes numerous violations of Oregon's electronic waste law (e.g. a large television in a dumpster at Crescent Valley High School), and various hazardous waste violations (e.g. 5-gallon buckets of paint, refrigerators, fluorescent light tubes, etc.)....Earlier this year, I discovered fluorescent light tubes in a large, open dumpster at Crescent Valley High School. ...I've also frequently found waste violations in dumpsters on the OSU campus and at a Philomath school. This includes significant quantities of hazardous chemicals (e.g. epoxies, paints and solvents), a refrigerator, and electronic devices. " Doug notes his complaints were received by DEQ, but did not resolve the issues. These specific complaints fall outside of the County's geographic jurisdiction, with the exception of Crescent Valley High School: Taxlot: 11514B000201 Tax Account: 043699 Assessment Map: 11514B Owner: CORVALLIS SCHOOL DIST 509J Situs Address: 4444 NW HIGHLAND DR CORVALLIS 97330	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
84	16-Oct-2023	I'm a union rep that represents seven mechanics that work at the Coffin Butte Landfill in Corvallis Oregon. They constantly are working around hazardous materials that are effecting the air they breathe and the operators around them.	DEQ	Written comment	
85	16-Oct-2023	Caller reported an excessive amount of potentially hazardous dust from a landfill site. Caller Redacted per ORS 192.355(4) Confidential Submissions advised they do not follow dust mitigation policy. They are concerned that the policies are not being followed, and that the material within the dust can be potentially dangerous to the public.	DEQ	Written comment	8/3/23-Aubree Minten: This is not a Haz Waste issue but is a solid waste issue. In Coffin Butte's solid waste permit section 9.14 states that the permittee must

		<p>Caller advised they have pictures of the dust leaving the site.</p>			<p>control air emissions including dust and this is not occurring with regard to a particular waste stream. The landfill is not violating an air quality standard as there is no evidence to support that the particulate matter is leaving the property boundaries and is therefore violating the solid waste permit specifically section 9.14 where they are required to control dust. Hugh Gao is the solid waste permit writer for Coffin Butte landfill and I am directing this complaint to him. I am also referring this to OSHA to look at worker exposure/safety the intake person for referrals at OSHA is Aileen Harmon and that is who I am referring this complaint to: Aileen.R.Harmon@dcbs.oregon.gov9/22/23 - Becky Williams: Reached out to the complainant letting them know that DEQ contacted the LF letting them know of a dust complaint received and asked for their dust suppression process which they provided. Also explained that because the complainant wants to stay anonymous the video that was provided cannot be used as evidence and therefore an enforcement cannot be issued.</p>
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86	26-Oct-2023	1. Concerns about landfill closure date, fill rate, capacity, environmental cost of the landfill (including methane, PFAS, leachate, landfill gas emissions, air quality, wildlife impacts, traffic impacts, visual impacts, dust and litter, land use impacts, liner/cover maintenance, public security), regulatory and general compliance (federal, state, and local), material acceptance monitoring, material sources, accepted tonnage/intake rate, liability for remediation, quarry excavation, closure and reclamation plans, risks (fire, earthquakes, hazardous materials, PFAS, flood, power outages, multiple disasters, groundwater contamination, economic impacts, (written comment)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Written comment	Unknown
87	26-Oct-2023	2. Concern landfill impacts on nearby heron rookery (written comment)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Written comment	Unknown
88	26-Oct-2023	3. Concern about amount of recyclable materials in the landfill (written comment)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Written comment	Unknown
89	26-Oct-2023	4. Concern about landfill material characterization, and methane containment (written comment)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Written comment	Unknown
90	26-Oct-2023	5. Concern about hazardous materials accepted at landfill via commercial waste collection, concern about hurdles and inaction in complaint process (written comment, duplicate of email complaint received by Benton County)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	(Duplicate - from 10/6/22 email) Written comment	Complainant filed complaints with DEQ, DEQ responded during BCTT process
91	26-Oct-2023	6. Concern about level of detail in landfill traffic reporting (written comment)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Written comment	Unknown
92	31-Oct-2023	<p style="text-align: center;">Hi Daniel,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Would you please share this message with the DSAC distribution?</p> <p>While biking yesterday evening on Camp Adair Road (north of Corvallis), I noticed a huge cloud of smoke coming from Republic Services' composting facility ("Processing and Recovery Center" or PRC). I was concerned about the fire, so I went to see if I could find someone from Republic Services to talk to. Unfortunately, no one was in the office or at the weigh station. I've created an album with photos and videos showing the smoke coming from the smoldering pile which you should be able to access here: https://photos.app.goo.gl/q59s9dimFMhVZkZ6 (please let me know if you're unable to view the</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.

		<p>images and videos). I've attached two of the photos for reference below.</p> <p>The smoke from this fire was drifting over a large area south of the facility, extending roughly 2 miles south on Independence Highway. It had earlier drifted a long way to the east, along Camp Adair Road, extending to Springhill Road (before the wind shifted). The intensity of the smoke definitely made it unhealthy to breathe. I had to hold my breath while biking through the worst of it (and changed my route to avoid it).</p> <p>I would like to know more about this incident. Were you aware of it? I can only assume it was an unplanned (and unpermitted) incident. Does the PRC operate under a permit from DEQ? If so, does the permit allow these kinds of unplanned fires? What corrective action(s) will be taken to prevent these kinds of events in the future? Will any fines or other measures be taken to stop this kind of pollution from happening in the future?</p> <p>Thanks in advance for your reply, Doug Pollock</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Taxlot: 104170000300 Tax Account: 005656 Assessment Map: 10417 Owner: VALLEY LANDFILLS INC Situs Address: 29891 CAMP ADAIR RD MONMOUTH 97361</p>			
9 3	1-Nov-2023	<p>We got up around 6:45 am and noticed a thick haze outside. I did not actually go outdoors until around 7:30 am and was met with strong chemical smell - I had never smelled this odor before. It seemed to dissipate around 9 am or thereabouts, but an unusual haze persisted throughout the day.</p>	DEQ	Written comment	Forwarded complaint to permittee and requested investigation and response.

9 4	3-Nov-2023	In the area around the intersection of Hwy 99W and Camp Adair/Coffin Butte Roads, there were large amounts of smoke mixed with odors from possibly both PRC and the landfill. A neighbor at the same time observed that several of the compost piles at the PRC were on fire and producing massive amounts of smoke. The odors were obvious all the way north almost to Monmouth.	DEQ	Written comment	10/17 - I called the complainant and recommended they contact OSHA about worker safety concerns. They stated they've already contacted OSHA and that they want someone from DEQ to look into this issue. They are concerned about the lack of dust mitigation at the landfill. The photos they attached show white clouds of dust that appear to be kicked up from bags of microglass fibers. They said that Hugh Gao and Becky Williams are both aware of what's going on with this facility.
9 5	13-Nov-2023	Tip or Complaint: Mr. Orton says there are violations at Coffin Butte Landfill in Corvallis, OR. The violations are grotesque and ongoing, and he has reached out repeatedly to ODEQ and the state, but they do not seem interested. He is requesting a call back.	DEQ	Written comment	DEQ contacted the landfill regarding this issue. The landfill stated/responded on 11/13/2023: "As requested during our meeting, I'm providing a summary of how we handle dusty materials and medical waste at Coffin Butte. We have multiple practices that we utilize to minimize dust. First, we have a full-time water truck driver during the dry season. This person waters the roads and working face areas to minimize dust. Our operators are also trained to identify dusty loads and to let the site Operations Manager know about them. This way we can work directly with the customer to implement measure

					<p>to reduce dust. This can include one or more of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the customer wet down the material prior to bringing it to the landfill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packaging the material in large bags or containers to contain the dust when the load is tipped • Having the customer dump their material off to the side of our working face so that we can bury it directly in place without having to move the material with our equipment. <p>If a customer is unwilling to work with us to reduce dust, we also have the option of rejecting future loads of material from them.</p> <p>Regarding the material in the white bags, while we are still permitted to accept it, we haven't actually received the material in at least a year. "</p>
9 6	17- Nov- 2023	11/17/23 - The complainant called and left a voicemail at 10:15am. They said the landfill stench was "pretty oppressive" from about 5am-approximately 9:45am. They could smell it from their home (27407 Writsman Creek Drive).	Phone call	Call	11/17/23 - Daniel Redick called the complainant and left a voicemail at 1:19pm, and let them know that the complaint would be recorded in Benton County records.
9 7	17- Nov- 2023	11/17/23 - The complainant called and spoke with Daniel Redick, reporting strong landfill odors in the early morning hours. They could smell it from their home (37420 Moss Rock Road, Corvallis).	Phone call	Call	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
9 8	17- Nov- 2023	Original complaint forwarded to DEQ from EPA Regional Tip/Complaints (original email uploaded to documents):	DEQ	Written comment	11/2 - I called complainant and left message. DEQ will

		<p>https://ebird.org/checklist/S103247095 - Photos of birds at Coffin Butte Landfill: NOTE these photos are from Sunday February 20, 2022. Coffin Butte Landfill operations are closed on Sundays which means at the end of Saturday's operation daily cover was not applied. Coffin Butte Landfill work area left uncovered for the weekend. What the photos clearly show is no daily cover. The 5 inches of soil and or alternative cover required by what I believe to be Title 5. The absence of daily cover is not limited to this one Sunday. I have a series of time lapse photos taken with a game camera over a period of many, many weeks that shows the continuous practice of neglecting daily cover. The time lapse photos show that the only time any cover is applied is when the daily work area is moved across the landfill. Appears that Republic Services only applies cover to facilitate the movement of vehicle traffic. I would like to share the other photos as part of this complaint but in total they are too large for this Media upload. I am requesting EPA contact me regarding an unannounced site visit.</p>			<p>need more information, such as an origin of the haze/odor. Complainant is located in a rural area and I don't see any businesses nearby that would generate a chemical smell or unusual haze. It could be a neighbor open burning garbage.</p> <p>11/3 - The complainant called. They couldn't describe the smell. They said that they regularly smell smoke from slash piles and also experience terrible odors from Coffin Butte Landfill. But this smell was different than either of these and they have no idea where it could have originated from. It just smelled like chemicals. It didn't smell like smoke at all. There were reports that PRC (Pacific Region Composting) had a fire a few days ago and they wondered if perhaps it was from that. I recommended they keep a log with date/time, odor characteristics and wind direction if they continue to notice the odor to help DEQ narrow down where it's coming from. They agreed and thanked me for my time. I am closing this complaint.</p>
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99	19-Nov-2023	11/19/23 - The complainant emailed Linda Ray the following complaint: Hello Benton County, I'm writing to log in a complaint about the Coffin Butte Landfill, which blanketed its neighborhood with a strong chemical reek on the morning of November 16, 2023. I live in the landfill area. I see reports on social media that many people experienced this smell and that the reek extended as far south as North Corvallis. Can you advise me as to what the people of Benton County can do to address this? Ken Eklund	Written comment	Email	11/20/23 - Daniel Redick responded and provided additional options for filing complaints
100	19-Nov-2023	Another complainant emailed Linda Ray at 8:59am: "I'm writing to log in a complaint about the Coffin Butte Landfill, which blanketed its neighborhood with a strong chemical reek on the morning of November 16, 2023. I live in the landfill area. I see reports on social media that many people experienced this smell and that the reek extended as far south as North Corvallis. Can you advise me as to what the people of Benton County can do to address this?" (Ken Eklund <futureeverything@writerguy.com>).	Written comment	Email	Daniel Redick responded on 11/20/23 at 8:25am with information about filing complaints directly with the landfill and DEQ.
101	21-Nov-2023	"dump smell"	Direct Complaint to Republic Services - Becky LeBlanc	Written comment	Not reported
102	29-Nov-2023	"dump smell"	Direct Complaint to Republic Services - Larry LeBlanc	Written comment	Not reported

103	1-Dec-2023	12/1/23 - Larry Leblanc called and left Daniel Redick a voicemail, and said that they could smell landfill stench.	Phone call	Call	12/1/23 - Daniel Redick returned Larry's call, confirming receipt of the complaint and offered additional resources for filing odor complaints, which Larry said they were already aware of.
104	1-Dec-2023	Odor	Direct Complaint to Republic Services - Becky LeBlanc	Written comment	Not reported
105	7-Dec-2023	1. Concerns about rate of quarry excavation and impacts to available landfill airspace	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Meeting	Unknown
106	7-Dec-2023	2. Concern about various landfill business contracts/agreements increasing accepted tonnage and impacting landfill lifespan (in meeting and via written comment)	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Meeting, and written comment	Unknown
107	7-Dec-2023	3. Concern about landfill compliance with land use conditions of approval	SWAC & DSAC Joint Work Session	Meeting	Unknown
108	9-Dec-2023	Republic Services truck releasing roadside Litter and debris - Camp Adair Road	Benton County	Email	Benton County notified Republic Services, requested further investigation
109	9-Dec-2023	Republic truck releasing trash along Camp Adair Road	Benton County	Written comment	Solid Waste accumulation
110	12-Dec-2023	Odor	Direct Complaint to Republic Services - Larry LeBlanc	Written comment	Not reported
111	13-Dec-2023	Call and voice mail re: odor near the landfill at "the end of Richmond Creek Road". Odor described as "really bad" but no other details. Caller left a phone number.	Phone call	Call	Daniel Redick called the resident.
112	14-Dec-2023	"particularly nasty"	Forwarded to RS from DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
113	15-Dec-2023	"absolutely overpowering"	Forwarded to RS from DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
114	16-Dec-2023	"overwhelming stench this morning"	Direct Complaint to Republic Services - Larry LeBlanc	Written comment	Not reported

1 1 5	21- Dec- 2023	<p>Caller is in North Albany area, poor air quality over the last 2 weeks due to methane leak from Coffin Butte Landfill. Caller got information via a Neighborhood Post when she asked what the odor/air quality was. Would like to file a formal complaint, also has questions on whether or not there is an update from the report by DEQ in beg November. Requesting a call back.</p>	Phone call	Call	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
1 1 6	23- Dec- 2023	<p>I am an Area Coordinator for a local neighborhood watch group in North Albany (single family homes, apartments and other structures for the elderly - quite a large community). I am sending this email on behalf of the Watch in RE: to submitting a formal complaint based on the poor air quality in the Central Willamette Valley on/off since the beginning of November. Many in the areas surrounding the Coffin Butte landfill have been experiencing heavy chemical air for the past 3 weeks, as their has been continuing stagnate air - a huge health concern. Several in our community have asthma and are not doing well in this situation.</p> <p>Here is a message that was sent to a community online platform (covers all of Linn and Benton counties) for residents in this area. Two posts below are from a member to alert neighbors where the source of the bad air was/is coming from. Posts are detailed below.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">First post:</p> <p>AIR QUALITY AND AIR STAGNATION ALERTS – LANDFILL METHANE EXCEEDANCES Since early November, the residents of Corvallis, Albany, Salem and Eugene-Springfield and surrounding rural areas have been subjected to multiple days of air stagnation weather patterns. Air patterns that trap particulates and other air pollutants close to the surface where these pollutants are inhaled while being outside. Here is an example alert from the National Weather Service on Saturday, December 16 – WHAT...For the Dense Fog Advisory, visibility one quarter mile or less in areas of dense fog. For the Air Stagnation Advisory, a period of stagnant air with light winds is expected. * WHERE...Central Willamette Valley and South Willamette Valley. * WHEN...For the Dense Fog Advisory, until noon PST Sunday. For the AIR STAGNATION ADVISORY, UNTIL 4 AM PST MONDAY. * IMPACTS...Hazardous driving conditions due to low visibility. AIR STAGNATION COULD RESULT IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND PERSISTENCE OF POOR AIR QUALITY. During these periods of air stagnation, do you experience the acrid smell in the air? Did you know that the smell is coming from the Coffin Butte dump? EPA INSPECTED THE DUMP IN JUNE 2022 AND FOUND MASSIVE METHANE</p>	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.

LEAKS THAT VIOLATE AIR QUALITY LIMITS.

Methane is an odorless gas, but it is not the only air pollutant spewing from the dump. On Highway 20 at Independence Highway on Friday December 15 around noon, the smell from the dump was absolutely overpowering. Residents are being exposed to toxic air pollution from the dump, and people living in and around Adair Village, Logsdon Ridge, and North Albany know exactly what I am talking about. Be careful when you are outside, do not exercise strenuously, and limit your outdoor activities to avoid exposure to these chemicals spewing into the air from the dump. Also, to help protect our air quality during air stagnation events, please limit car trips, outdoor burning, and woodstove use. If the air smells bad to you, please call and file an odor complaint with Benton County at 541-766-6819, submit a written complaint to publiccomment@bentoncountyor.gov, or file odor complaint with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality at 503-229-5696. DEQ also has an online form at <https://ordeq-edms-public.govonlinesaas.com/pub/pub-rcd/ordeq/event;tab=basic>. My next post will include report excerpts from the recent EPA air quality inspection conducted at the dump.

Follow up:

EPA FINDS MASSIVE METHANE LEAKS AT COFFIN BUTTE LANDFILL The EPA performed an ANNOUNCED clean air inspection of Coffin Butte landfill on June 23, 2022. This means that EPA TOLD THE DUMP OPERATORS in advance that EPA was coming to conduct an inspection. For background, SEM stands for Surface Emissions Monitoring, PPM is a measure of concentration and stands for Parts Per Million. Under its Air Quality Permit, Republic Services is allowed to self-monitor gas emissions from the landfill.

While EPA found dozens of methane concentration exceedances, not surprisingly, Republic's self-monitoring reports only found very few exceedances and some reports didn't find any. Methane is one of the most potent greenhouse gases. Landfills that are emitting tons of methane are also emitting many other air pollutants. Coffin Butte landfill is one of the largest methane emitters in Western Oregon. Information presented here is excerpted from a 14-page EPA report dated September 19, 2022. Daniel Heins, the EPA inspector, spent nearly 9 hours on site during the inspection. The EPA surface emissions monitoring inspection found: :
EXTREME METHANE LIMIT EXCEEDANCES:

Quoting from the EPA report, "Over the course of the day, Daniel Heins identified 61 POINTS IN EXCEEDANCE OF 500 PARTS PER MILLION (PPM), EXHAUSTING HIS SUPPLY OF MARKING FLAGS. Of these, 21 flagged exceedances were ABOVE 10,000 PPM. Many flagged exceedances represented clusters of exceedances at multiple points or BROAD AREAS OF EXCEEDANCES. Of the flagged exceedances, 26 were at or partially at gas collection wells (including both active and abandoned or decommissioned). Eight exceedances were at leachate cleanouts. Daniel Heins focused monitoring on areas under intermediate cover, though the first six exceedances were in final cover areas. During the afternoon monitoring, Daniel Heins measured MULTIPLE EXCEEDANCES THAT CONTINUED TO BE ABOVE 500 PPM MULTIPLE FEET IN THE AIR, with multiple feet lateral distance from the emission source, INDICATING SUBSTANTIAL LANDFILL GAS PLUMES."

DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN REPUBLIC'S REPORTED MONITORING AND WHAT THE EPA FOUND: Again, quoting directly from the EPA inspection report, "Daniel Heins expressed potential concerns with Republic's SEM/Method 21 procedures. Despite Republic having seen no more than 6 exceedances in the recent SEM reports supplied ahead of the inspection that included penetration monitoring, including reports with 0 exceedances, he identified 61 points in exceedance of 500 ppm, including 21 points above 10,000 ppm, with 26 exceedances at gas collection wells that Republic should have specifically been monitoring on a quarterly basis since the Oregon State Plan became effective in November 2020." "Daniel Heins expressed concerns with the areas of tarp that were inflated with and leaking out landfill gas, as detected during the SEM, noting that in additions to compliance concerns with the surface methane standard that such an accumulation of flammable gas creates a potential safety concern." For more information on Oregon's rules for landfill gas emissions, go to this website:

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/ghgp/pages/landfill-methane-emissions-reduction.aspx>

Is there something being done by County and State agencies to hold Republic Services accountable for fixing the multiple violations listed in the EPA report?

It appears they've not held up the standards required by the state of OR and should be held to account.

Please accept this email communication as a formal complaint on behalf of many in the community who have been suffering from negligent practices currently happening at Coffin

		<p style="text-align: center;">Butte.</p> <p>If you could send an update on progress RE: holding them to account, it would be much appreciated.</p> <p>Thank you for your assistance in this matter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Best Regards, Area Coordinator, Blossom Crossing Neighborhood Watch</p>			
1 1 7	23- Dec- 2023	The odor from Coffin Butte Landfill was particularly nasty for these three days (12/14-12/16)	DEQ	Written comment	
1 1 8	25- Dec- 2023	Email message: "December 25, 2023 dump smell is overwhelming! We are at 37072 Soap Creek Road, It also smells at 27407 Writsman Creek Dr. it was obvious this morning, this evening it is overwhelming." No request for follow, no phone number left.	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.
1 1 9	25- Dec- 2023	"like rotten garbage, some sort of gas"	Forwarded to RS from DEQ	Written comment	Not reported
1 2 0	25- Dec- 2023	Has been smelling like rotten garbage for at least a few hours now. 2 days ago it smelled like some sort of gas. I frequently smell a rotten odor when it gets foggy or there is an air stagnation advisory. I finally found out how/where to report this unacceptable odor, most likely caused by the local landfill.	DEQ	Written comment	Complainant did not reference what specific violations he observed, or dates or times. There are no other complaints from this individual on record in the system.
1 2 1	26- Dec- 2023	the odor was intense when driving between Coffin Butte Landfill, south on Independence Hwy to Hwy 20, and all the way into Albany	DEQ	Written comment	2/2/24 sent email to Republic requesting they add the complaint to their log and get back to me with findings regarding Dec 25 and 23.
1 2 2	28- Dec- 2023	Email received: "Over the past year, the smell from the dump has gotten more and more overpowering. There is no way to get away from it. The chemicals that cause the terrible smells also cause cancer when we breathe them in. With so many inversions, Coffin Butte is quickly making this whole area unlivable like the paper mill used to make Albany."	Written comment	Email	Daniel acknowledged the complaint and followed up with resident.